

Hafa Adai!

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OAG wants IPI v CCC case in federal court

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General, representing the Commonwealth Casino Commission, wants the lawsuit that Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC filed against the commission moved to the U.S. District Court for the NMI, believing that the federal court has original jurisdiction over the matter.

See OAG on **Page 4**

Report: \$17.3M OIA monies supported 3% of NMI workforce

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

In a report highlighting the economic impact of U.S. Department of the Interior grants and payments provided to U.S. territories and the freely associated states, the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs said that their monies

ON THE NET

https://www.doi.gov/oia/reports/OIAeconomicreports

were able to support 791 employees and over \$17 million in employee compensation.

The report, titled "Economic Impacts Attributable to FY 2018 Federal Grants and Payments to Seven

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Menoni takes over from Chatfield

ASAN, Guam—Returning to Guam for his third tour of duty on island, Rear Adm. John Menoni assumed command of Joint Region Marianas from Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield during a change of command ceremony at the Guam

High School gymnasium aboard U.S. Naval Hospital Guam in Agana Heights yesterday.

Menoni also assumed the roles as senior military official for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States

Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield is piped ashore during a change of command ceremony at the Guam High School gymnasium aboard U.S. Naval Hospital Guam in Agana Heights yesterday.

U.S. NAVY/MCS3 MACADAM KANE WEISSMAN

of Micronesia and Republic of Palau; commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas; and commander, Task

Force West.

Vice Adm. Mary Jackson, com-

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NATION

The Trump administration will vastly extend the authority of immigration officers to deport migrants.

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ASIA

President Rodrigo Duterte said there is no way to stop the Chinese from fishing in his country's EEZ.

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LIFE & STYLE

As famous as they are, celebrities sometimes get misidentified as another A-list face.

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Local

US military brings back remains from World War II battle

By AUDREY McAVOY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU (AP)—The U.S. military has brought back the remains of more than 20 servicemen killed in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II.

An Air Force cargo plane flew the remains from Tarawa atoll in the remote Pacific island nation of Kiribati to Hawaii on Wednesday. Marines

carried flag-draped caskets off the plane for a ceremony.

The remains are among those discovered in March by History Flight, a nonprofit organization that searches for the remains of U.S. servicemen lost in past conflicts.

They're believed to belong to Marines and sailors from the 6th Marine Regiment who were killed during the last night of the three-day Battle of Tarawa. More than 6,000

Americans, Japanese and Koreans died.

Forensic anthropologists with the Defense POW/MIA

Accounting Agency will work to identify the remains using dental records, DNA and other clues.

SGT. JACQUELINE CLIFFORD/U.S. MARINE CORPS

In this Wednesday, July 17, 2019 photo, A POW/MIA flag hangs over transfer cases carrying the possible remains of unidentified service members lost in the Battle of Tarawa during World War II, aboard an Air Force transport plane prior to what is known as an honorable carry conducted by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), in a hangar at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii. The remains were recently recovered from the Republic of Kiribati by History Flight, a DPAA partner organization, and will be taken to a laboratory in Hawaii to begin the identification process.



PNG open to Chinese, Australian investors

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Papua New Guinea's prime minister said Monday his South Pacific island nation was open to investment from China, Australia and any other country that is willing to work within the country's rules.

Prime Minister James Marape is making his first visit to Australia since he became leader of its nearest neighbor and former colony in May.

Marape said while Australia was the biggest investor in Papua New Guinea, his government treated all investors equally.

"Whether they are from China or Australia or right across the world is inconsequential and irrelevant to us," Marape told reporters.

"We will have an equal playing field for every investor as long as they subscribe to the rules and regulations of our country," he said. "Chinese investors will not receive any special treatment and preference, just like Australian investors will not receive any special favor or treatment."

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said his government wanted to ensure that each of its Pacific neighbors were "as independent and as sovereign and are in as much in charge of their future as they possibly can be."

Marape's visit comes as Australia attempts to counter China's growing influence in the South Pacific by teaming with the United States and Japan to finance infrastructure in Pacific island states that the Chinese have aggressively wooed with loans and aid.

Marape said before his

meeting with Morrison on Monday that China's relationship with his nation was none of Australia's business.

The United States, Japan, New Zealand and Australia announced in November that they will bring electricity to 70% of Papua New Guinea's people by 2030. Only 20% of its 8 million people, mainly subsistence farmers, currently have power.

Morrison announced on Monday a 250 million Australian dollar (\$176 million) investment in the electrification program in the Ramu region.

Marape said Papua New Guinea had no more important bilateral relationship than its relationship with Australia.

Chinese President Xi Jinping made his first visit to Papua New Guinea last year when Pacific Rim leaders met in the capital Port Moresby for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

The United States and Australia committed to redevelop a Papua New Guinea naval base on Manus Island in an agreement with the previous prime minister, prompting China to caution against "Cold War" thinking. China reportedly wants to establish a naval base in the South Pacific.

The United States is expanding its Marine Corps training hub in the northern Australian city of Darwin—1,600 kilometers (1,000 miles) southwest of Port Moresby—as part of its strategic pivot to Asia.

The U.S. ambassador to Australia, Arthur Culvahouse Jr., calls China's lending in the Pacific "payday loan diplomacy."

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'Expand compensation from nuclear weapons testing'

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

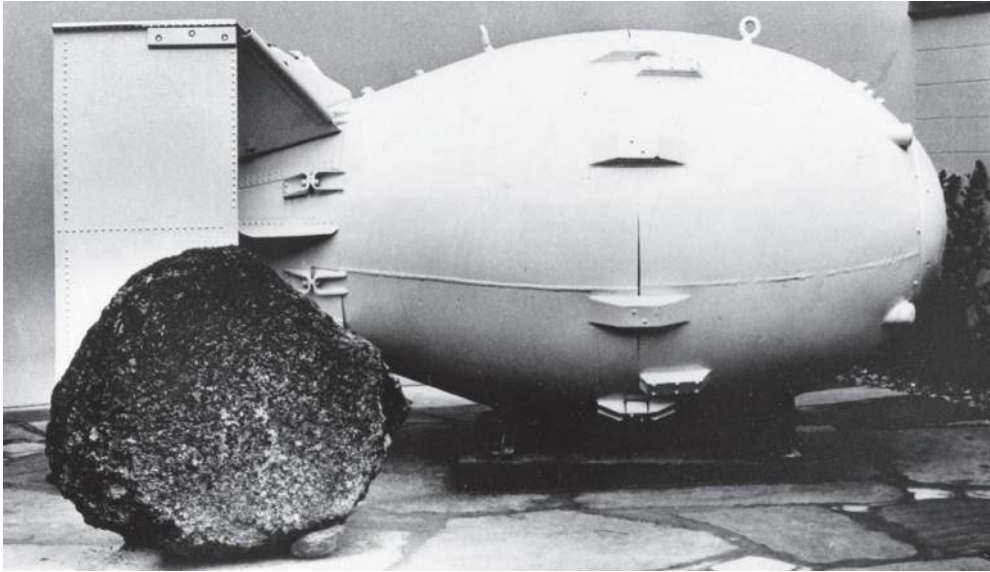
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—A compensation program for those exposed to radiation from years of nuclear weapons testing and uranium mining would be expanded under legislation that seeks to address fallout across the western United States, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan rolled out the measure Tuesday on the 74th anniversary of the Trinity Test.

As part of the top-secret Manhattan Project, government scientists and the U.S. military dropped the first atomic bomb in the New Mexico desert in 1945. Nearly 200 atmospheric tests followed. Uranium mining persisted even after the tests ceased.

Tens of thousands of people—from miners and truck drivers to those living in communities near test sites—were exposed to radiation that has resulted in cancer, birth defects and other illnesses, said Lujan, a New Mexico Democrat.

He said radiation exposure has disproportionately affected Native American communities as well as those who have lived in the shadow of that first test.



This Oct. 15, 1965, file photo shows a "Fat Man" nuclear bomb of the type tested at Trinity Site, N.M., and dropped on Nagasaki, Japan in 1945, on view for the public at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory Museum.

"Radiation exposure has taken the lives of too many and continues to hurt our communities. I know how important this legislation is for New Mexico families that have been affected," he said.

The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act was first passed in 1990 as an alternative to costly litigation to ensure the federal government met its financial responsibilities to workers who became sick as a result of the radiation hazards of their jobs. Coverage was broadened a decade later.

Compensation currently ranges from lump sums of \$100,000 for uranium workers to \$50,000 for those who lived downwind of the Nevada Test Site.

Supporters of the legislation have argued for years that there are many more people who were exposed but not eligible to file claims under the program.

This includes downwinders in New Mexico's Tularosa Basin, where the Trinity Test was conducted.

The Tularosa Basin Down-

winders Consortium say many who lived near the site weren't told it involved an atomic weapon until the U.S. dropped bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and World War II ended.

"The government did nothing at the time to monitor what was happening with the fallout," said Tina Cordova, a co-founder of the group and cancer survivor. "They did nothing to protect our health at the time of the test. They did nothing to warn before or after and people were dying."

Despite the lack of comprehensive epidemiological studies, Cordova pointed to a paper published this week in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists on state health data that showed a spike in infant mortality with no known cause other than it began a month after the Trinity Test.

She said the increase followed what had been a steady decline in infant mortality in New Mexico up until August 1945.

"This is significant," she said of the data, saying it can help frame the debate as the bill moves through the U.S. House.

Similar legislation has been introduced by U.S. Sens. Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich.

Nearly three dozen House members have signed on to Lujan's measure and his office is confident this could be the year that other downwinders are added to the list of those who can get compensation.

Lawmakers also are facing a deadline as authorization for the compensation program will expire in two years. Lujan said that will leave thousands of people without the ability to pay for medical care for illnesses linked to exposure.

The legislation would ex-

tend the program until 2045 and the timeframe for those exposed while working in the uranium industry would be extended to Dec. 31, 1990.

The measure also would require Congress to issue an apology to those exposed in New Mexico, Idaho, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, Texas, Wyoming, Oregon, Washington, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nevada, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The definition of downwind states would be expanded to include Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Guam.

U.S. Rep. Michael San Nicolas of Guam said nuclear fallout has left behind a deadly legacy.

"It is about cancer. It is about the major impact these diseases have on our families," he said. "It is about the life and death of loved ones past, present, and future."

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Rota delegation happy with more air seats

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Rota Legislative Delegation were ecstatic to learn that a Tinian-based airline is preparing to offer additional seats for their Saipan and Rota and Guam and Rota flights by late July 2019.

Star Marianas Air announced Monday that they would be offering more seats between the three islands after

a request by Sen. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) during a meeting between delegation members and airline executives.

The additional seats, according to Santos, would “tremendously assist” Rota residents and visitors.

“Since United Airline’s decision to stop flights in and out of Rota, the people have experienced personal hardship [due] to the loss of flights,” she said in a statement. “I wish to

extend our heartfelt gratitude to Star Marianas Air Inc. [for adding] flight routes between Rota and Guam...in consideration of the verbal request that has been made regarding this matter.”

United Airlines’ regional carrier to Rota, Cape Air, pulled out from Rota last May 2018.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota) similarly

gave thanks to Star Marianas.

Ultimately, Sen. Manglona wishes for Rota to have the capacity to entertain international flights in order to boost the economy of the island.

“I am very grateful on behalf of the people of Rota and the CNMI,” Sen. Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* in a statement. “...I only wish that we can work with United Airlines,” adding that there is a need to take it “one step further” to accommodate international travelers as well.

“On behalf of my office and the people of Rota, we extend our appreciation and gratitude to the Star Marianas Air Inc... for their dedication in providing Rota with reliable air services,” Rep. Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

From here on, he noted, all that is left is to maintain relationships with the airlines.

Rep. Manglona noted that he wishes for Rota to continue to be known as a premier tourist destination in the CNMI, despite its struggles with transportation.

“We hope that Star Marianas can consider expanding its fleet, even an upgrade in aircraft, to provide more seats to and from Rota,” he added.



Rear Adm. John Menoni is piped aboard during a change of command ceremony at the Guam High School gymnasium in Agaña Heights yesterday.

U.S. NAVY/MCS3 MACADAM KANE WEISSMAN

MENONI

From Page 1

mander, Navy Installations Command, was the keynote speaker and praised Chatfield for her accomplishments.

“The charge of command is foundational to our military success and I am unequivocally confident that the Joint Region has been and continues to be in good hands,” she said. “As I look back at Sho’s tenure as commander, I can say with confidence that Sho has successfully surpassed the requirements of her many demanding duties while embracing all that make Guam and the Marianas unique and special.”

Following her remarks, Jackson presented Chatfield with the Defense Superior Service Medal for her superb services in Micronesia from January 2017 to July 2019.

During her time on island, Chatfield successfully managed critical efforts in providing critical installation support 35 Navy commands in four geographically separate sites, as well as logistics to operational units of the 5th and 7th Fleets. She also guided JRM through multiple joint and multinational exercises and events enhancing interoperability between allied nations. Additionally her leadership was vital to the recovery of Guam and the CNMI after Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu ripped through the region in 2018.

“We have the most advanced fighting force in the world,” Chatfield said. “But even the most advanced weapons and equipment are useless without highly trained men and women to operate them. Today, our nation’s fighting force is stronger and our national defense more complete because of patriotism and high enlistment rates from our fellow Americans from Guam and the [CNMI].”

Chatfield thanked members from the government of Guam, CNMI, FSM and Palau, and the local communities for their partnership and expressed her gratitude to her

staff for their support during her tour.

“The partnership that the communities of Guam and the CNMI share with DoD, and the political relationship that FSM, RMI, and Palau have with the U.S. is powerful because it comes with security guarantees,” she said. “Those guarantees are a free and open Indo-Pacific, regional stability and a commitment to open and transparent dialogue. The spirit of Micronesia is beautiful, and I am humbled to have been a part of it.”

Chatfield will report to the U.S. Naval War College as its first female president.

Menoni reports to JRM after serving as executive assistant for the director of integration of capabilities and resources. He attended the 75th Guam Liberation Day parade and reflected on the sacrifices made decades ago.

“In 1944, thousands of service members fought and died for this island, for this region,” he said. “You have my commitment that today we remain prepared to maintain regional security and stability, and provide the world’s strongest defense against any adversaries who wish to do harm to these islands and our nation.”

Menoni first arrived in Guam as part of Operation Fiery Vigil following the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines in 1991. From 1995-1998, he was part of the now disestablished Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 5; and from 2006-2008, he was the commanding officer of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25.

“To all the shipmates, and I include our Marines, soldiers, airmen and civilians as shipmates, who work tirelessly towards mission success, I look forward to working with you, listening and learning from you,” he said. “To our allies and partners, I look forward to our continued friendship and collaboration that will benefit all our nations from here and for generations to come. Thank you for welcoming me back, I look forward to giving you my very best.” (PR)



NMDC MEETING

Members of the Northern Marianas Descent Corporation discuss the general membership and working committee formations during the group’s membership meeting yesterday at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

MARC A. VENUS

OAG

From Page 1

Assistant attorney general Benjamin Petersburg filed the notice of removal yesterday, removing the matter from the Superior Court, where IPI had initially filed the petition for a preliminary injunction, to the District Court.

IPI lawyer Viola Alepuyo pointed out that Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo is already scheduled to release an order on the preliminary injunction this Thursday, so she was confused when she was served a

copy of the notice to move the case yesterday.

“IPI was looking forward to Judge Govendo’s decision in this case,” she said.

She believes that removing the case to the federal court would mean that IPI will essentially be starting all over again in presenting its case, citing the numerous hearings, witness testimony and hundreds of pages of filings that Govendo has been reviewing.

In Petersburg’s notice, he stated that the District Court has original jurisdiction over the matter under 28 U.S.C because the complaint alleges a civil rights violation pursuant

to 42 U.S.C.

The civil rights violation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. was asserted in Grand Marianas (CNMI), LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties’ complaint in intervention.

Petersburg also stated that the District Court has jurisdiction over the claims arising under the Commonwealth Constitution pursuant to 28 U.S.C.

Petersburg pointed out that the OAG satisfies all the requirements to file a notice of removal since the notice is being filed in a timely manner—within 30 days of receipt of a copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim for re-

lief, and within 30 days since they were served a copy of the complaint in intervention and summons.

On June 24, an action was started in the Superior Court titled Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC v. Commonwealth Casino Commission.

On July 1, Grand Marianas (CNMI), LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties filed a stipulated motion to intervene, which was granted the same day.

On July 12, Grand Marianas (CNMI), LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties filed their complaint in intervention.

REPORT

From Page 1

Insular Areas,” noted that the CNMI received about \$17.33 million from the OIA in fiscal year 2018.

This amount, according to the report, also included Compact of Free Association payments amounting to \$2.3 million.

The report further noted that OIA payments in the CNMI were estimated to have directly supported 664 jobs and \$15.3 million in employee compensation.

Including jobs that were indirectly supported by federal monies, the report noted that the OIA was able to support a total of 791 employees, over \$17 million in employee com-

ensation, and \$16.6 million in Gross Domestic Product. The 791 employees represent 3% of the CNMI’s total employment.

“...Over \$17 million of employee compensation associated with these employees accounts for approximately 3 percent of total employee compensation inside the region, and the \$16.6 million of GDP associated with these employees represents 1% of total GDP produced by the region,” the report stated.

According to the report, the OIA payments to the CNMI during fiscal year 2018 were primarily directed to the construction and government sectors, with additional support for education, wholesale trade, and the private sector.

In a separate statement, In-

terior said the report provides an analysis of the economic impact of grants and payments provided to the territories and freely associated states.

Grants and payments from OIA totaling \$710 million are estimated to have created an economic impact of \$888 million on insular Gross Domestic Product in 2018, supporting 26,652 jobs. Across the insular areas, the impact on government employment ranged from three to 17% in the territories and close to 45% in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Overall, the analysis provides key insight into the impact of OIA grant payments and funding transfers on employment, employee

compensation, and gross domestic product in American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau.

The final economic analysis of 2018 funding was prepared for the Department of the Interior by RTI International.

For those interested in looking at the numbers for Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the District of Columbia and Hawaii, head to the OIA website at www.doi.gov/oia/ or for a direct link, <https://www.doi.gov/oia/reports/OIAeconomicreports>.

Court dismisses ex-Telesource staff's \$2M disability suit for 3rd time

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has dismissed again the \$2-million employment discrimination lawsuit filed by a former employee of the then-Telesource CNMI Inc. against his former employers over his alleged termination due to his disability.

In her order Monday, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona found that Garabed O. Mirzoian has failed to state a claim on which relief can be granted because he failed to timely pursue administrative remedies with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or any other agency that is authorized to investigate his discrimination claim.

Because of these circum-

stances, Manglona said, the second amended complaint is dismissed with prejudice since it would be futile to amend Mirzoian's complaint a third time.

That means Mirzoian can no longer re-file his lawsuit.

Mirzoian is suing former Telesource chief executive officer Nidal Z. Zayed and general manager Michael N. El-Rahl for wrongful termination, employment discrimination, disability discrimination, for pain and suffering, and emotional distress. He filed the complaint without a lawyer.

Telesource has changed its name to Pernix Group Inc. and El-Rahl and Zayed are now based in the company's offices in Fiji Islands and Illinois, respectively.

According to Mirzoian, Telesource terminated him in

2006 after he got injured in a vehicular accident involving two buses. He said he suffered serious injuries during the accident that occurred while he was employed with Telesource.

In February 2016, the District Court dismissed the case due to Mirzoian's failure to establish that he was entitled to equitable tolling of the 180-day period to file a charge with the EEOC or a 300-day period if he first files a charge with an authorized state agency.

In this case, the actions complained of occurred in 2006, and Mirzoian did not file charges with EEOC

until 2015.

Because plaintiff did not explain why he is now suing after over nine years, the District Court dismissed the complaint without prejudice. Mirzoian was allowed to refile the case to address this deficiency.

Mirzoian then filed a first amended complaint.

In January 2018, Manglona dismissed again the lawsuit for lack of jurisdiction, concluding that the plaintiff failed to exhaust his administrative remedies.

Manglona determined that the amended complaint fails to comply with the court's prior order.

Manglona directed the clerk of court to close the case. Mirzoian appealed.

In July 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit vacated the dismissal. Ninth Circuit judges pointed out that it is not clear from the District Court's order whether the court considered the effect of Mirzoian's filing of the complaint with the CNMI Department of Labor on the issue of exhaustion of administrative orders.

The Ninth Circuit judges remanded Mirzoian's case for the District Court to consider whether the plaintiff could be deemed to have constructively filed his claims with EEOC on the day he filed his charge

with CNMI Labor, and therefore exhausted his administrative remedies at that time.

Mirzoian then filed his second amended complaint for wrongful termination, misrepresentation, and employment discrimination.

In dismissing the second amended complaint Monday, Manglona said the CNMI Department of Labor did not hold itself out to Mirzoian as having the authority to handle workplace discrimination claims.

Moreover, Manglona said, in sitting back and waiting for months and years, and not following up with Labor on whether they would act on his complaint, Mirzoian did not exercise diligence.

Rota generator issue nearly done

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. was set to deliver through a plane yesterday from Saipan to Rota a cable that was supposed to resolve the only remaining technical problem to set up the 1.8-megawatt generator on Rota, according to acting CUC executive director William Gilmore.

Gilmore said the cable would be the last item that has to be installed and that will finish the project.

The entire worth of the project to purchase the generator is \$690,000. It was bought to address a power emergency on Rota.

Gilmore said the installation of the generator on Rota was delayed due to an issue in delivering the unit from the U.S. mainland to Rota.

There were also slab and then "grounding" issues, but those were already resolved, he said.

With respect to the "cable issue," Gilmore said they had a problem with getting a flight to bring the item to Rota. "The cable...that should be resolved today," he added.

Gilmore said other power engines are functioning on Rota.

He said the new power engine that CUC had purchased prior to the one that was bought for the emergency had already arrived on Rota and is functioning well.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho designated deputy executive director Gilmore as acting executive director effective last Friday as Camacho is on leave and is currently in the U.S. mainland.

Gilmore said they are still trying to move everything forward and keep the power engines running and provide 24-hour water supply. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

DPS: No new details in home invasions

The Department of Public Safety has no new details relating to two home invasions that occurred over a month ago.

Two individuals were beaten in a home invasion in San Vicente over a month ago. A few weeks after, another home was invaded, this time on Mt. Tapochao, leaving one man beaten and bloodied. According to DPS spokesperson Adrian Pangelinan, DPS has no new details or leads to report in both cases.

In the home invasion in San Vicente, two individuals were beaten unconscious. One was a 14-year-old male and the other was a 28-year-old female.

The San Vicente residence was invaded on June 2 at around 3pm but nothing was reported missing.

A member of the household said in a quick interview that his daughter was at home with a few children, but the children had left for a confraternity of Christian doctrine class at the San Vicente Church right

behind their home. He said that his daughter was alone at home when a person invaded their home and beat her up.

In the home invasion on Mt. Tapochao, three men invaded the Mt. Tapochau home on June 21 and took with them valuable electronics. The men left the owner of the residence, an Asian man, bruised and bloodied. The DPS statement did not identify the victim.

The victim was only able to describe one suspect as dark-skinned, with a skinny build, and wearing a red T-shirt and a pair of black short pants. He was unable to see the other suspects as his eyes were in pain, but he did mention that the individuals drove away in a white-colored SUV, which looked like a Kia Soul.

For anyone who may have any information related to any of the two incidents, call 911. For those who wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. *(Kimberly A. Bautista)*

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‘Article 12 issue on renewal of land lease still unanswered’

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ruled yesterday that, since the parties have terminated the proposed new lease agreement over parcels of land in western Garapan where Tony Roma’s and Capricciosa’s restaurants are located, the court can no longer decide on the issue of Article 12 and renewal of land leases.

That means the amicus curiae briefs that the court had earlier requested are no longer needed in this case, Camacho said, since the executor of the estate of the affected land has withdrawn his motion to approve the proposed new land lease for another 55 years.

“The issue of Article 12 and renewal of land leases by corporations remains unanswered

at this time,” said the judge in a two-page order.

Article 12 of the NMI Constitution restricts long-term interest in real property to persons of NMI descent.

Amicus curiae (friend of the court) refers to a brief filed in court by an entity or an individual who is not a party to a case. It offers information, expertise, or insight that is relevant to the issues in a case.

In a status conference last Monday, Camacho said that James Stump had said that his clients, Triple J Saipan Inc. and Triple J chair and chief executive officer Robert H. Jones, do not wish to answer the public policy question of Article 12 and the renewal of land leases, as well as to avoid embarrassment and being in

the newspapers.

Camacho said that, according to Stump, they have terminated the proposed lease agreement and therefore, the motion to approve the lease is no longer necessary.

The judge said Stump also informed the court that he does not think that government and business entities are lawyers and should not be commenting on Article 12.

Camacho also said that lawyer Vincent DLG Torres had stated that his client, Probio M. Cabrera estate executor Probio DLC Cabrera Jr., also wants to avoid embarrassment in the newspaper and has terminated the proposed lease agreement, and therefore the motion to approve the lease is no longer necessary.

In a separate order yesterday, Camacho vacated the hearing that was set for Sept. 12, 2019. That hearing was supposed to address the parties’ stipulation to withdraw the motion to approve the proposed lease agreement.

Last Wednesday, July 17, Camacho invited Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, some government agencies, the Hotel Association of the NMI, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce to submit amicus curiae briefs on issues involving Article 12 and the renewal of land leases.

The judge issued the invitations in connection with the request of Probio DLC Cabrera Jr. for the court to approve the proposed new land lease with Triple J Saipan Inc.

The briefs were supposed to respond to the question: Does Article 12 prohibit a corpora-

tion or its subsidiaries that took over the lease from entering into a new lease if entering into a new lease would give the lessor a long-term interest in the real property for more than the original 55 years?

Triple J Saipan Inc. and the Cabrera estate signed the proposed lease agreement last May 7 and 22, respectively. Last Thursday, the parties agreed to terminate the proposed lease deal.

In Triple J’s support of Cabrera’s motion to approve the lease filed last Tuesday, July 16, Stump argued that Article 12 restrictions are inapplicable in this case as the proposed lease does not take effect until the present lease expires and that the proposed lease is with parties that have no common ownership interests. **(Ferdie De La Torre)**

CUC water service interruption today

There is will a scheduled water service interruption today, July 24, for the areas of Airport Road Dandan, Lower Dandan, Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road (Shell Dandan gas station to ABCD Market in Koblerville) As Lito, Tottotville, portions of As Perdido, and Adobo Drive in Koblerville, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

The purpose of the emergency water service interruption is to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. water operations personnel to perform repairs on a damaged 6-inch transmission water line that supplies water to these areas. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water service soon after. As a result of the repair, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community.

CUC appreciates the public’s understanding and patience throughout this repair and will continue to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). **(PR)**

Yvette Bennett wins 1st runner-up in bikini competition

Yvette DLG Bennett won first runner-up honors in the Miss Bikini Model Division of the Miss Bikini Competition, beating out 31 other contestants from other states.

Bennett set herself apart from the other candidates with her swimsuit and the use of the CNMI flag in her photo shoots and on the runway.

Her swimsuit was designed with sea shells and plumeria flowers and was custom-made on Saipan by “Flowerpot Cre-

ations” designers Flowerpot Salas and Philip B. Quitugua.

Bennett’s use of the CNMI flag also made her one of three contestants to connect the design of her swimsuit to the state she represented. She also used the CNMI flag while modeling her swimsuit.

As the first runner-up, Bennett is next in line to promote the title of Miss Bikini Model, should the winner not be able to fulfill her obligations.

Bennett and her family ac-

knowledge the support of the Marianas Visitors Authority and its managing director, Priscilla Iakopo, for placing an ad in the *Miss Bikini* magazine, Laila Boyer and *Marianas Variety* for their donations, and the 670 Rocksteady Store for their contribution of the CNMI flag.

Photos and videos of Bennett’s performance are available on her social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram (@yvettedlgbennett). **(Marc A. Venus)**

Ukulele classes at JKPL


Registration for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library’s Beginner and Intermediate Ukulele Class is ongoing.

The classes are open to children ages 8 years or older and adults.


The total cost for eight class sessions is \$50. Ukulele classes are held at the JKPL, in partnership with ukulele instructor Larry Lee and children. Session is set to begin

on July 23, 2019. The ukulele class is every Tuesday and Wednesday at 4pm to 5pm.

Students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (plastic sheet protectors and a three-ring binder are recommended). Parents/guardians must sign a liability waiver form on behalf of their participating children and must adhere to public library policies and procedures. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma’ Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9715 Facsimile (670)236-9702



INVITATION TO BID
ITB19-JUDICIARY-03
GUMA’ HUSTISIA SKYLIGHT PROJECT

The Judiciary of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (“Judiciary”) is soliciting sealed bids for the Guma’ Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice (“Guma’ Hustisia”) Skylight Project. This project involves the demolition of existing skylights and its replacement with concrete caps and skylights for the Guma’ Hustisia located at Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950.

A copy of the bid package may be obtained by visiting the Accounting Services Unit’s Cashier Window, located next to the main entrance to the Guma’ Hustisia, between **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, Monday to Friday, excluding observed holidays, upon registration completion. The bid package also contains architectural-engineering drawings and specifications that must be retrieved online at www.justice.gov.mp. For website issues preventing access, please contact Martha Mendiola, Program and Resource Specialist, at martha.mendiola@justice.gov.mp.

Sealed bids, containing one (1) original and three (3) copies must be placed in an envelope marked “ITB19-Judiciary-03, Skylight Project,” and submitted in person to the Accounting Services Unit Cashier Window, located next to the Guma’ Hustisia’s main entrance, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, no later than **2:00 p.m. on August 15, 2019 (ChSt)**.

Bid Opening. Bids will be publicly opened and read at **3:00 p.m. on August 15, 2019**, at the Judiciary’s conference room located at the Guma’ Hustisia.

Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference. A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by a site visit is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on July 31, 2019** at the Judiciary’s conference room located at the Guma’ Hustisia.

Bid Security. A *Bid Security* of fifteen (15%) of the total bid price must accompany bids. Bid security must be in a bid bond, in cash, by certified check or cashier’s check. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. *If a bid bond is submitted, it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).* (ICC may take up to 5 business days).

Bonds. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred percent (100%) and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred percent (100%) of the total bid price must be furnished by the successful bidder within five (5) business days of contract execution. The Payment and Performance bonds must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (“CNMI”).

Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC). Bidders shall submit a clearance from the CNMI Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Surety Questions. Questions and concerns on authorized Surety must be directed to the OIC.

Project Questions. All questions regarding ITB19-Judiciary-03 must be submitted via email to Budget and Finance Director John T. Villagomez at john.villagomez@justice.gov.mp by 12:00 p.m. on August 2, 2019. Responses will be provided to all registered, prospective bidders via email no later than August 8, 2019.

Performance Period. The performance period for this project is sixty (60) calendar days, beginning with the date a Notice to Proceed is issued.

All bids received shall become the sole property of the Judiciary. The Judiciary reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Judiciary.

Bidding procedures will be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
BUDGET & FINANCE DIRECTOR



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2019

Opening date: July 22, 2019

Closing date: August 06, 2019

Positions:

- (1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)
- (1) Ports Police Officer-I (Saipan)
- (1) Electrician (Saipan)
- (1) ARFF General Maintenance-I (Saipan)
- (1) ARFF/Ports Police Officer-I (Rota)
- (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
- (1) General Maintenance-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 06, 2019**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at jadene.villagomez@cpa.gov.mp or hrrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Man in 'ice' possession case waives preliminary hearing

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTS**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man who was arrested after being allegedly caught with methamphetamine or "ice" following a police stop waived his right to a preliminary hearing last Monday.

Derik Jonathan Reyes, 38, through his lawyer, assistant public defender Stephanie Boutsicaris, submitted a waiver to the Superior Court prior to the preliminary hearing.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho vacated Reyes' preliminary hearing date and his arraignment is set for July 29.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Reyes was arrested last week for illegal possession of a controlled

substance that was allegedly found inside his vehicle after his car was searched when police noticed what looked to be a gun case sitting in his car's back seat.

Police pulled over Reyes' black sports utility vehicle, or SUV, at around 3:15am on

July 12 because he was driving without headlights.

Reyes had a passenger in the car, CNMI Drug Court program graduate Robert Camacho Torres, who was also allegedly found in possession of a controlled substance.

Police allegedly noticed

that a black case labeled "Colt Governm. 1911" and a GoPro camera case in the back seat of Reyes' SUV and made him aware of what had been spotted. Police immediately ordered Reyes and Torres to put their hands on the wheel and dashboard of the car. Torres, however, failed to comply so police opened the passenger door and

spotted a pipe, straw, and a Ziplock bag beneath the passenger seat before ordering both Torres and Reyes to exit the vehicle.

Police searched the black gun case and the GoPro case and were able to procure a glass pipe within the GoPro case.

A K-9 investigation was conducted on both the car and

Reyes and police were able to procure a silver-gray digital scale, a blue lighter, Ziplock bags containing a crystal-like substance, a broken glass pipe with residue, multiple Ziplock bags with residue, and more.

The bags containing a crystal-like substance allegedly tested positive for methamphetamine.

Ayuyu wants more to join Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Saipan is revving up its membership drive, with club president Marcia Ayuyu outlining this goal to get more members part of her priorities.

The club currently has 39 members. Three previous

members have moved off-island due to work-related assignments.

Ayuyu said it has always been a challenge to bring in new members, as well as attract former members to rejoin the club.

She said she has been hard at work to draw in new members from the many businesses throughout the islands. "I am really hoping that the Rotarians help me [by] working hard to bring [in new] members," Ayuyu said.

She assured that all members will be connected in

serving the community as part of the club's mission.

As one of her projects, Ayuyu plans to add a Rotary Club plaque by the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport to let people and incoming tourists know of the club's presence on the island.

She said the club has already started planning for their annual fundraising event, the 2019 Las Vegas Night. She said the tentative date for the event is this November and she will be talking with the club's board of directors about the event's details. *(Marc A. Venus)*

Superstore gives away free hotdogs

By **MARC A. VENUS**
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As part of the celebration of National Hotdog Day, Joeten Superstore in San Jose gave away free hotdogs to its first 300 customers yesterday. The company did a two-way split, with 150 hotdogs given away at 12pm and 150 more given away at 6pm.

Joeten Superstore also had a promo for its popular hotdog combo—two hotdogs and one drink—at a special price of just \$3 instead of the regular \$5.

The stunt was so popular that lines began to form 30 minutes before the giveaway of the free hotdogs, and the food itself saw a lot of customers lining up to buy the hotdog combo. Many of the customers said they were just happy to be part of the event.

One customer said that he lined up at the Joeten Superstore an hour prior to the giveaway, as he was afraid that the lines would be too long. He realized that he was on time and was happy to be able to grab a free hotdog before they ran out. He also bought two combos for his family.

Employees were also happy at the number of customers filling up the store in celebration of National Hotdog Day. One employee informed *Saipan Tribune* that the crowd cleared the tray of free hotdogs in a matter of seconds, as many had lined up earlier.

Joeten Superstore manager Mike Yang urged the public to follow the superstore's social media pages on Facebook (Joeten Superstore) and Instagram (@joetensuperstore).

According to the National Day Calendar, National Hotdog day is celebrated in July as a "summertime staple on a bun." However, other places celebrate this day by paying homage to the different varieties of hotdogs.

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THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
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SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & : CIVIL ACTION
INSURANCE : NO. 11-0131
SERVICES GROUP, INC., :
Plaintiff, :

-v- :

LUCIA BORJA PALACIOS, :
Defendant. :

EIGHTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 10, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Legal description of the property: Lot No. 218-2-5, situated in As Teo, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 53,203.65 meters north and 66,755.91 meters East of the Mariana Islands District Coordinate System of 1956.
Thence N 13° 35' 00" E, 13.18 meters to corner 3;
Thence S 80° 13' 00" E, 65.95 meters to corner 4;
Thence S 09° 47' 00" E, 28.85 meters to Corner 5;
Thence N 80° 13' 00" W, 66.53 meters to Corner 1; the point of beginning.

Total area of the property: 1,923 square meters, more or less

Known encumbrances: Defendant is believed to own a undivided one-half of the said property. There are no other known encumbrances.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 2, 2019, at the hour of 1:30p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. A copy of a title insurance report for the property is available to any prospective bidder upon request.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Condition of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 13th day of June, 2019:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



JOIN DCRM FOR
THIS YEAR'S

INTERNATIONAL
**Coastal
CLEANUP**
**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 21**

"HARNESSING THE POWER OF PEOPLE
TO FIGHT OCEAN POLLUTION"

The International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) is the world's largest single-day cleanup event with the goal of collecting and documenting trash littering our coastlines and waterways. Volunteers from states and territories throughout the U.S. and over 100 countries worldwide come together each year and participate in the cleanup event near them.

**SIGN UP TODAY AT
WWW.DCRM.GOV.MP**

For more information, contact the ICC Coordinators:

Colleen Flores at cflores@dcrm.gov.mp

Mallory Muña at mmuna@dcrm.gov.mp

(670) 664-8300/10/16



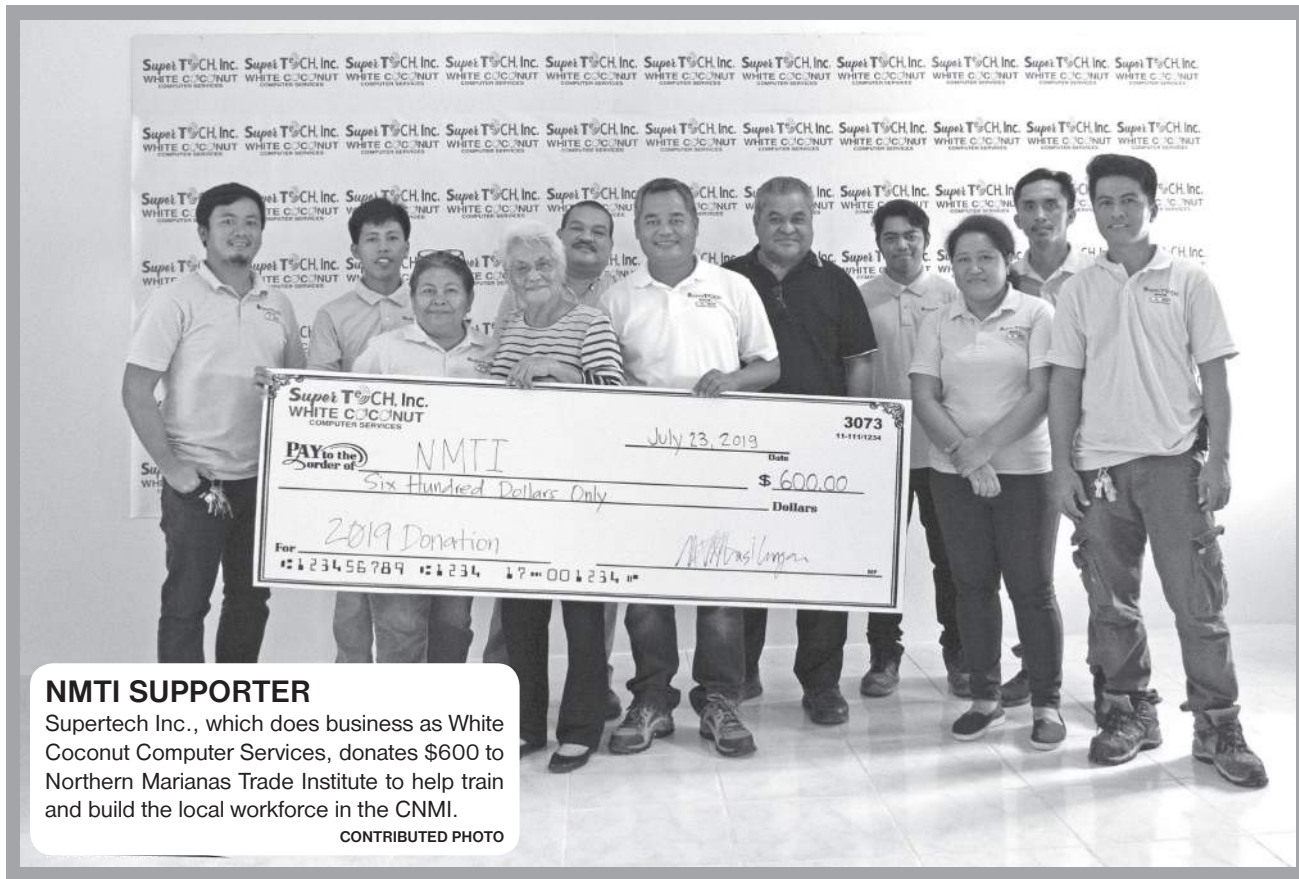
**DURING
THE 2018
ICC, THE
CNMI**

HAD
**1,532
VOLUNTEERS**

CLEANED
OVER
**50
LOCATIONS**

COLLECTED
**9,180
POUNDS
OF TRASH**

Farmers, ranchers urged to apply for USDA repayments



NMTI SUPPORTER

Supertech Inc., which does business as White Coconut Computer Services, donates \$600 to Northern Marianas Trade Institute to help train and build the local workforce in the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Farmers and ranchers outside the continental United States are being encouraged to enroll in a program that would reimburse them for the costs of bringing their agricultural products to market.

The sign-up period for the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for fiscal year 2019 started last July 15 and will run through Sept. 6, 2019.

The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency.

The Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2019 reauthorized RTCP, which offsets a portion of the costs of transporting agricultural products over long distances.

The program allows farmers and ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii and insular areas including Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the CNMI, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the freely associated states of the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic

of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau, to recover any transportation costs.

This program helps U.S. farmers and ranchers outside the 48 contiguous states who are at a competitive disadvantage when transporting agriculture products to market, according to the USDA.

RTCP payments are calculated based on the costs incurred for transportation of the agricultural commodity or inputs during a fiscal year, subject to an \$8,000 per producer cap per fiscal year. In the event that claims for payments exceed the funds available from the program for a fiscal year, payments will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.

For more information on RTCP, farmers and ranchers in the eligible areas can visit their administrative FSA county office or fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport. To find your local FSA county office, visit farmers.gov/service-center-locator. (PR)

NEWS BRIEFS

'Help keep bus shelters clean'

Rotary Club of Saipan president and McDonald's Saipan co-owner Marcia Ayuyu is raising concerns about the amount of litter in bus shelters.

She told *Saipan Tribune* last Saturday that there was a noticeable amount of trash at the designated Rotary Club and McDonald's Saipan bus shelters during their scheduled cleanup.

Ayuyu, who co-owns McDonald's Saipan and Guam and whose company sponsors some of the bus stop shelters, noted that one of such bus shelters on Saipan was found

with a lot of trash, most of them empty beer cans.

She pointed out that bus shelters are meant for children and are not there for adults to drink and leave their mess behind.

The Rotary Club was supposed to paint a bus shelter on Middle Road last Saturday but it got rained out. A combination of Rotary Club and the Marianas High School Interact Club, the high school iteration of the Rotary Club, were present as they prepared the bus shelter for the next time the club will clean the area. (Marc A. Venus)

Open enrollment at Isla Montessori School

Fall enrollment is now open at the Isla Montessori School in Dandan and they are ready to welcome new students and their families into their growing community.

A community open house is scheduled for Monday Aug. 5, from 4pm to 6pm, during which members of the public can tour the campus and classrooms. Families can schedule a private tour by calling 288-4752 or emailing info@islamontessori.org.

"The 2019-2020 school year at Isla Montessori School is coming together

beautifully, and we want to invite you and your children to become a part of our exciting, thought-provoking and growing programs," said school co-heads and guides, Susan and Diana. "We are very excited to open our doors to curious new students and their families as we prepare to kick off the...school year."

Isla Montessori is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that serves children from ages 2.5-9 years of age. (PR)

NMC Info Session this Thursday

Individuals who are interest-

ed in furthering their education are encouraged to attend Northern Marianas College's free Information Session this Thursday, July 25, 2019. The event will cover information on the admissions application process, financial aid, class registration, and academic programs and services.

The info session will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the Olympio T. Borja Library at the college's As Terlaje campus. The library is located in Building O of NMC's campus.

Attendees of the information session will qualify to

have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2019 semester—a savings of about \$75.

The first day of classes will be on Aug. 26, 2019, but interested applicants are encouraged to apply early to register for courses and for financial aid.

For more information about registering for classes for the upcoming fall 2019 semester or to apply for admission, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 24, 2000

Taxes from garment exports drop

Government revenues from apparel exports suffered a modest fall in the first eight months of the Fiscal Year 2000, primarily caused by the anticipated result of billion-dollar suit filed against garment manufacturers on Saipan and their mainland United States buyers. Records obtained from the Department of Finance disclosed a 1.5 percent reduction in garment user fee collection during the period covering October 1999 through May 2000, from last fiscal year's \$25.5 million to \$25.1 million. The CNMI government has consistently projected reduction in earn-

ings from apparel exports since the billion-dollar class suit was filed in early 1999.

Tinian airport expansion gets \$6.51 million more

An additional funding of \$6.51 million was earmarked last Friday by lawmakers for the West Tinian International Airport expansion project after its initial estimated budget of \$17 million fell short of actual costs. Half of that money will come from the proceeds of the forthcoming \$60 million bonds that the government will float to finance various capital improvement projects in the CNMI, while the other half will be from the federal construction grants under the Covenant Section 702 fund-

ing. The House of Representatives cleared the appropriation bill sponsored by Tinian Rep. Norman S. Palacios to set the process in motion and is now awaiting action by the Senate. Once the project is completed, Tinian leaders hope to entice international airlines to service direct flights to the island from key Asian cities which will help its thriving casino and other tourism businesses.

July 24, 2005

'2006 budget must be prioritized over wage hike'

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee cited its counterpart at the House of Representatives for "misplaced priority" noting that the latter first held a public hearing on a minimum wage hike bill rather than on the must-pass budget for fiscal year 2006. Rep. Norman S. Palacios said, however, that he only followed the instruction of the House leadership to conduct

hearings on two bills: minimum wage hike and user fee immediately. "We'll tackle the budget after these [minimum wage, user fee]. We can't do all at the same time," said Palacios. Mendiola said, though, that the CNMI government faces a more serious problem if no new budget is passed before Sept. 30.

Changes in power privatization bidding process urged

With only two months to go before the completion of the government's power plant privatization, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce has urged the Babauta administration to modify the bidding process and do away with committing the CNMI to 20-year contract with an independent power producer. Chamber president Alex Sablan, in a letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta, recommended that the government shift to an IPP request-for-proposal process to contract privatization for

operations and management costs only. The current process entails an IPP taking over and rehabilitating the Lower Base power plant, and installing two 15-megawatt generators, among other things.

July 24, 2008

PSS gets 'passing grade' for student retention

The Public School System gets a passing grade for student retention numbers, PSS Commissioner Craig Garrison said. "Overall, as a district, we are probably getting a B, B-plus in terms of retention, so we're doing a pretty good job," he said. Garrison released some elementary retention numbers Thursday, but said a full report would be ready by the start of the school year. The Board of Education asked for the report in order to review the district's progress, Garrison said. San Vicente Elementary had one of the highest numbers of students repeat-

ing grades at 15 but, Garrison said, San Vicente is academically challenging to students.

House seeks Navy's aid with power crisis

The House of Representatives has adopted a resolution urging the U.S. Navy to help solve the power crisis in the Northern Marianas. The resolution calls on Admiral Robert F. Willard, the commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, to help end the power outages that have plagued Saipan because of its aging power plant and the high cost of fuel. The resolution noted that the U.S. military has a stake in enhancing the quality of life for the people of the Commonwealth. The military controls some 17,800 acres of public land on Tinian through a 50-year lease agreement with the CNMI government. The leased property is being eyed as a training area for the Marines that will soon be relocated from Okinawa to the Marianas region.

All but one of Russian man's claims vs FEMA is dismissed

The federal court has dismissed all claims except one in a lawsuit filed by a Russian national against the Federal Emergency Management Agency for allegedly finding him ineligible for some or all of the FEMA funds provided after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan in 2015.

In an order last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona found that Milan F. Fargo has stated a claim on which relief may be granted, but only as to FEMA's determination that he was ineligible for disaster assistance after Typhoon Soudelor.

Manglona said Fargo has alleged a plausible excuse for failing to lodge an administrative appeal within the agency's time frame.

The judge said if the FEMA assistance had been in the form of a loan, the excuse would be implausible, because no doubt he would have been under duty to inform the agency of a change of address until the loan was fully repaid.

Manglona said Fargo could not know about the audit and had no reason to be on the lookout for a recoupment letter from FEMA.

Manglona said Fargo had no claim pending with FEMA for which he was awaiting a determination.

"The court is not making a finding that Fargo's neglect was in fact excusable," said the judge, adding that FEMA may choose to plead exhaustion as an affirmative defense and may be able to show that Fargo's failure to exhaust should not be excused.

Manglona said Fargo's all other claims—for failing to respond to requests for medical assistance, for using the Aging Center as a shelter, for problems with email, and for any assistance relating to Super Typhoon Yutu—are dismissed with prejudice.

The judge ruled that the court does not have jurisdiction to hear such claims.

Dismiss with prejudice means Fargo may not renew such claims in any amended pleadings.

Manglona struck plaintiff's request for punitive damages.

Fargo may not add any new claims without first making a motion for the court's permission to add them and obtaining the court's permission to do so.

Manglona said although

she, with some effort, has pulled together Fargo's one viable claim from the many pleadings and exhibits, they are not "short and plain statement" of his entitlement to relief, as required by Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, so as to put FEMA on notice of the claim and allow the agency to answer or otherwise respond appropriately.

Therefore, the judge said, Fargo is ordered to file a second amended complaint limited to his claim on FEMA's eligibility determination for the Typhoon Soudelor assistance.



Manglona

Manglona said the second amended complaint and any exhibits (letters, emails, and other documents) that Fargo attaches to it will be the only complaint and exhibits that are served on FEMA.

Fargo was given until July 31 to file his second amended complaint and exhibits.

Manglona granted Fargo's application to proceed in forma pauperis, which is a permission given by a court to an indigent to initiate a court action without having to pay for court fees or costs due to his or her lack of money.

Fargo, in a pro se complaint or without a lawyer, said the action of FEMA is illegal when in its letter dated Nov. 13, 2017 told him that his debt is now final.

The letter says FEMA provided Fargo funds as a result of his application for disaster assistance. FEMA said it conducts audits of disaster assistance payments.

Fargo said FEMA told him that his debt is final because he did not file an appeal within 60 days upon receiving the notice of debt letter.

He said FEMA told him that if he does not take action within 30 days from the date of the Nov. 2017 letter, FEMA will submit his debt to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and that FEMA and Treasury will continue to add administrative charges, interest, and penalties to his unpaid debt until it is paid in full.

Fargo said in the eyes of FEMA, he did not take action starting on Nov. 13, 2017.

He said as a result of this deliberate FEMA interpretation, the original \$2,990 he got, already has grown up to \$4,217.

He said FEMA even warned him that if he fails to pay the debt, he could jeopardize future disaster assistance.

Fargo said that Super Typhoon Yutu last Oct. 25, affected his health.

He said his application for emergency assistance for damage after Yutu is very likely to be denied by FEMA.

According to court records, the 66-year-old Fargo's original name is Nasir Nazarovich Kourbanov. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)


PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
 CNMI GOVERNMENT
 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP19-DCCA/CCDF-112
 SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 26, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SYSTEM OF SUPPORT FOR LICENSE AND/OR LICENSE-EXEMPT CCDF FAMILY HOME BASED PROVIDERS IN MEETING CHILD CARE LICENSING AND/OR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE BUILDING NO. 1347, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON **AUGUST 12, 2019 AT 10:00 A.M.**

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO **MS. MARIBEL S.D. LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR**, VIA EMAIL TO **ccdf.maribellose2019@gmail.com** OR VIA FACSIMILE TO **(670) 664-2547 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON AUGUST 14, 2019**. ALL QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RITA CHONG
 ACTING SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
 ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs-Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will hold a Public Hearing on

DATE	TIME	ISLAND	VENUE
AUGUST 08, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SAIPAN	CAROLINIAN UTT
AUGUST 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TINIAN	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
AUGUST 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	ROTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments on the FY 2020 LIHEAP Model Plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to implement the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for an eligible household in the CNMI.

Copies of the LIHEAP Model Plan and the Agenda of the public hearing will be available for public inspection beginning Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at the DCCA-LIHEAP office located in Capital Hill, Asuncion Road, Building #1339 and on the web at dcca.gov.mp. Persons wishing to schedule testimony or receive a copy of the LIHEAP Model Plan should contact DCCA-LIHEAP at 664-2574.

Public Comments are due by Friday, August 23, 2019. You may submit your comments via dcca.gov.mp or contacts listed below.

Mailing Address: Department of Community & Cultural Affairs
 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

Contact #: DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574

Email Address: Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer (golopai1960@gmail.com)
 Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

NUTISIAN PUPBLIKU

I Dipattamentun Asuntu Kumunidat Yan Kuttura - Prugraman Inasistin Takpapa' Suetdu (LIHEAP) para u managuaha Inekunguk Pupbliku gi

DATE	TIME	ISLAND	VENUE
AGUSTU 8, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SAIPAN	CAROLINIAN UTT
AGUSTU 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TINIAN	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
AGUSTU 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	LUTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

I rason nu esti na inekunguk pupbliku put para u marisibi upiñon pat testimoniu kinentra siha para iyon-niha Modelu Na Plānu para i Fiscal Year 2020 i LIHEAP para i Dipattamentun Hinemlu' yan i Setbision Taotao siha (HHS) para u ma'implimenta i Prugraman Inasistin Takpapa' Suetdu para i mankuñifikao na taotao guma' siha giya CNMI.

I kopian nu i LIHEAP Modelu Na Plānu yan i Asuntu nu i inekunguk pupbliku siempri managuaha para imbestigasion pupbliku matutuhun gi Mättis, Agustu 6, 2019 na ha'ani iya Capitol Hill, Asuncion Road, Building #1339 gi ufisinan DCCA-LIHEAP yan gi web dcca.gov.mp. I petsona siha ni manmalagu' manmahunguk i testimoniu-niha pat rumisibi i kopian i LIHEAP Modelu Na Plānu debi na u ma'agang i DCCA-LIHEAP gi 664-2574.

I Upiñon Pupbliku debi na u manahālum āntis di Betnis, Agustu 23, 2019. Siña un na'hālum upiñon-mu guatu gi dcca.gov.mp pat i contact siha ni manmalista gi sanpapa'.

Mailing Address: Department of Community & Cultural Affairs
 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

Contact #: DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574

Email Address: Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer (golopai1960@gmail.com)
 Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Sóobw me Kko – Progrómal Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) ebwe ayoor a Arongorongol Toulap wól

RÁÁL	OORA	FALÚW	LELIYÁL
ELÚWEL 8, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SEIPÉL	CAROLINIAN UTT
ELÚWEL 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TCHILIYÓL	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
ELÚWEL 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	LUUTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

Bwulul arongorong yeel nge reel rebwe bweibwogh fóos wól FY 2020 LIHEAP Model Plan ngáli U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) igha rebwe ayoorai mwóghutughutúl Progrómal Low Income Home Energy Assistance ngáli schóol llól iimw ikka re ffil me llól CNMI.

Pappidil LIHEAP Model Plan me Agenda reel arongorongol toulap yeel ebwe yoor ngáli ghámi toulap reel ów bwe amwuri wól Mwattis, Elúwel 06, 2019 reel Bwulasiyol DCCA-LIHEAP iye e lo Asúngúl, aalil Asuncion, Kkayú #1339 me mweteló dcca.gov.mp wól web. Schóo kka re tipáli rebwe ayoorai aalleta ngáre bweibwogh pappidil LIHEAP Model Plan rebwe faingiló DCCA-LIHEAP reel 664-2574.

Fóos sángi toulap ebwe toolong wól Bennis, Elúwel 23, 2019. Emmwel ubwe isiisilong yóomw fóos ngáli dcca.gov.mp ngáre faingi me isch ngáli contacts ikka e amwirimwiriti.

Mailing Address: Department of Community & Cultural Affairs
 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950

Contact #: DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574

Email Address: Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer (golopai1960@gmail.com)
 Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Is today's America too divided to achieve great things?

We want to join the many voices rightly celebrating one of the greatest moments in our history. How hard it must have been to even imagine that journey 50 years ago that saw America reach out and touch something so distant, mysterious and powerful.

The iconic images of the moon landing that returned to us became instant symbols of our ability as a people and a culture to make real what we could only imagine.

Not even the confines of the planet itself were enough to contain American, and human, ingenuity and will.

We want to celebrate that today, but we have some pause.

We find ourselves asking if the America we live in today is capable of such wonder and awe.

We don't mean technologically. Every day seems to bring us some advancement that would have seemed impossible a decade ago. We are so washed in technology that we take its abilities for granted. We assume the impossible now.

No, what more worries us today are the political and cultural questions that reflecting on the moon landing draw up.

Are we a nation that can gather around a singular goal and make it ours? Are we a country that can be unironic and patriotic enough to take seriously President John F. Kennedy's call that we sacrifice our individual selves for the whole of the republic?

We aren't convinced the answer to those questions is yes.

This isn't to cast a halcyon glow on the past. Apart from the Civil War, it's hard to name another era so politically torn as the late 1960s. And the country was torn for good reason. We needed to expand civil rights, to make good on the promise of equality, and that pain was part of the price for that work. The nation was also embroiled in war, and armed conflict is something that always leads to intense public debate.

What might have been different, though, was the sense of what America, as an idea, represented.

Today, the most prominent voices on the left too often cast America more in the light of its sins than its promise and achievements, as a place of division where power and privilege are simply an accident of birth or the spoils of faction and tribe. And, from the loudest voices on the right, the nation seems ever more unwelcoming and isolationist and fearful, not as the leader of nations devoted to the expansion of human freedom and democracy.

We believe that America is much better than those negative voices would pretend—voices amplified ironically enough through technology.

We believe Americans want to see the nation the way we were able to see it when our flag was planted in the dust and rock of the moon.

This is a country capable of making human life better and that has made human life better through all of our achievements—scientific, political and social.

Let's consider that for a moment in wonder and awe. Then, let's go together to achieve the next great thing.

(c)2019 The Dallas Morning News



That uneasy feeling again

In September 2016 I wrote a column titled "Here's Why Trump Could Win." The column was by no means a prediction, nor do I claim any special prescience regarding the American electorate. In fact, on Nov. 8, 2016, I was as surprised as anyone else.

But the September column was the expression of a nagging, uneasy feeling that the polls, pundits and political prognosticators, who gave Trump little chance of winning, might be wrong.

The column was shaped around a lecture in my local community in central Texas. The speaker was well credentialed, a law professor and former military officer who was billed as an "internationally recognized authority on national security law." He claimed to have written more than 60 books and articles and given 4,000 interviews to major media outlets. His subject was "Where Are We in the War on Terror?"

Despite his credentials, however, much of what he said was just plain wrong.

Here's just one example: In order to exaggerate the threat, he claimed that a majority of Syrian refugees at that time were men. Actually, only about 22% were males ages 18-59. A little research would have shown that the speaker was patently wrong.

But then his lecture took a strange turn. He turned to fear and division. He claimed to have predicted 9/11 well before the event, and he predicted a future cataclysmic attack on the homeland with casualties of three million instead of 3,000. He attacked all "liberals," condescendingly dismissing them as ignorant, misguided and unpatriotic.

He exaggerated the threat from crime and expressed his enthusiasm for capital punishment. Sure, liberals might whine about accidentally executing an innocent person, but, he said, "Nobody's perfect."

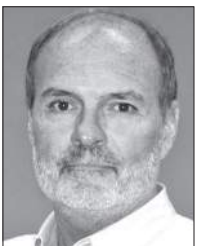
The event began to feel surreal. But in other respects, it was entirely ordinary: The speaker was credentialed and articulate.



U.S. President Donald Trump talks to the media on the South Lawn before departing the White House in Washington, D.C., on July 19, 2019.

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.



His audience of several hundred listened attentively. A few walked out, but no one raised immediate objections to the misinformation and fearmongering. The audience did not consist of discontented coal miners and steelworkers who were looking for someone to make America great again. Rather, the audience was

made up of educated, well-funded, white retirees, people to whom America had been very good.

This is when I began to feel a nagging uneasiness. If this ordinary audience could tolerate and applaud a speaker with such careless disregard for facts and who capitalized on fear, division and demonization of his opponents, why wouldn't it accept a man like Donald Trump? And, indeed, a month and a half later, it did.

This is the same uncomfortable feeling I experienced last week as I watched Trump's rally in North Carolina. He spent almost no time talking about plans and policy. He spent a lot of time talking about his victory in 2016. To the limited extent that he talked about facts, he was often wrong.

The economy is strong, but, no, it is not "the strongest economy in history." The unemployment rate is good, but, no, we are not experiencing the "lowest unemployment numbers ever." Just plain wrong.

See UNEASY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Ekun silensiu

An un` fagcha`e silensiu oriyamu pues guiya ennau i ekun finattun tiempun ha`ilas. Klaru na i maribahan ekonomia fuetsau hana` fan silensiu enteru petlas siha guine.

Kontodu namagof na felisitation finiñut dispues ni didog na chinatsagan halum guma` familia. Komprendiyun. Estague` `nai humalum kustumbren natibu ina`ayuda yan yinea`se` gi mas man-namase` na tautauta. Na geftau hau!

Mientras tantu, hu konsidera fina`pus kase 15-mit na empleau yan familian niha ni gumagana suetdun popble. Guaha otru mapetsisige dispues de che`chu` para umaprebeniye familian niha? Komprendiyun usun koyenturan famiia!

Haf` na planu guaha para uma-adelanta suetdun este siha na empleau? Lamegai man-gatdun entalu` \$15-mit esta \$18-mit gi sakan na suetdu. Guaha `nai in` atan haf` fina`pus familia diariamente gi halum este na sapet yan chinatsaga? Haf` sineda` miyu alibiu para in` ayuda este siha na empleau?

Fiñkas

Mauleg na disposision i sattun na inadache gi dididi` na fiñkas-ta piot guine gi hinalum tiempun ha`ilas. Este umasegura na i pribension setbisiun publiku makontinua otdinariamente.

Puede kayada maribahan ekonomia pot satbasion tautauta siha guine na petlas. Makat na obligasion i guaha `nai finagcha`e tina-huñg salape`ta para nesessidat publiku yan familia.

Ha luñu` hit finattun dos pagyu yan hiniyuñg fiñkas Japones ginen Marianas. Ti menus ke \$14 biyon pesus ginen destrosiun pagyu yan hinanau fondun Japones. Kuestion: Taimanu para ta katsu este na maliñgu gi apas nesessidat siha?

I gobietnu ha apunta huyyuñg i maribahan moneda gi ma`pus na semana. Presisu na infotmasion para todou kosake ni unu u hineñañg `an guaha chatsaga na disision para u ma-implementa dispues. Siña ha` inafekta setbisiun publiku kontodu oran cho`chu` empleau siha.

Maisa

Gi chagchag oga`an hu rebisa asunto-ta siha gi Internet. Hu ayeg

Parents: Do your job

FORT WORTH, Texas—Like many mothers, I begin summer with the best of intentions—nature walks, mornings in the park, afternoons by the pool, and lots and lots of backyard swing time. But this is Texas, and if the heat doesn't drive you inside by 11am, the bugs most certainly do.

And so, by early July, my kids and I are mostly indoors, which inevitably means the television is on at least every now and again—a reality I concede and sometimes despise.

Still, thanks to sites like commonsensemedia.org, it isn't too difficult to screen programs and find some that meet your family's desires and needs. For us that usually means something animated, preferably with animal or fantasy creatures that doesn't introduce content that's age inappropriate or concepts that my husband and I would prefer to introduce ourselves.

We've mostly had success in identifying shows that we believe are worthwhile, although we never expect TV shows to educate our kids or impart values to them. That's our job.

But apparently our careful curation of preschool TV programs could never be careful enough, at least not in the "woke" world of children's television.

According to a new study by children's app company Hopster, titled "Is TV Making Your Child Prejudiced?," the lack of socioeconomic, minority and sexual identity diversity in kids' shows is turning our kids into Donald Trump.

The report took aim at shows like "PAW Patrol" over gender balance and "My Little Pony" for lacking in its portrayal of class distinctions. (Never mind that the latter made headlines recently for its inclusion of a same-sex pony couple.) It also claimed that a third of content studied perpetuated gender stereotypes, showing "boys who fight" and "girls who are image-orientated"—stereotypes that the report authors seem to find entirely unfounded but that most moms I know probably would affirm.

More action is needed to "shape the perceptions" of children, the report recommended, because even the most innocent television content can't just fill our kids' heads with wonder, it has to fulfill a certain social agenda.

Hopster's findings aren't novel.

This spring, Rutgers University, UCLA and Ryerson University collaborated on a research project called "The Landscape of Children's Television in the U.S. and Canada," which similarly

haf` presisu na asuntota para bai analisa dispues. Umekuñgug ñaihonyu` finu` tautauta siha para bai li`e haf` i figan gi finu` niha antes de bai otganisa hinasoghu mañgge`.

Namagof i diniskuten asuntota siha `nai dispues guaha inakonfotma haf` mauleg para tautauta hineratmente. Inana`en hinassu homlu` na eksisiu gi maseha manu na komunida.

Gi lemlem tautau hu tutuhun mañgge` entre finu` Chamoru `sino Eñglis para este na pahina. `An guaha chinatsaga maila` ta aregla para benefisiun todou.

Libre maseha haye kumontesta haf` na puntu hu diskute guine na pahina. Homlu` i guaha difirensiau na opiñion para tali`e kabales haf` i asuntu. Hombre ha`ane guaha manana yan pueñge!

Patgon

Sumugu`yu` gi kantun tasin iya Chalan Laulau `nai hu soda` un` patgon (kase kuattru años) matatachoñg namaisa. Ha gugu`ot un`pidasun guihan (maniniñg) gi kanaiña. Hu faisen para haf-ague` ni guihan. Ti manman ilegña na para senaña. Hu lagnus dididi` kepleghu ya huna`e.

Hana` ma`ase`yu` sentimentun i patgon pot huchage lokue` mañgone` gi sisonyan tilapia para tetcheg-hu. Gi deskansog-hu huli`e talu i patgon. Kulan mohon umasuda`yu` yan guahu mis-mu pot malofanyu` esta guihe na kañada antes. Hu echa bendision i patgon puede felis gi kareraña. Yine`ase`!

Liñguahe

Hu fagcha`e man-mauleg mañainahu man-finu` Chamoru. Deste as biuhu Elias P. Sablan yan tiuhu William S. Reyes yan asaguaña Kita, yan todou. Achog finu` Karolinas man-mauleg yan man-lagse` kulan prefektu.

Hu emug ma-upus finana`guen mañgge` finu` Chamoru gi eskuela. Segundu gradu uttimu na finana`guen Chamoru dispues todou finu` Eñglis. Ti umaya i disision un` upus i naturat na hila`ña i patgon natibu `nai uttimofña mofo`na fuminu` Eñglis.

Dignu na onru i finu` Chamoru ni gaige guine siha na petlas deste 4-mit años `sino antigu na tiempu. Mapasa papa` ni man-

By CYNTHIA M. ALLEN

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.



determined that children's TV programs are rife with "systematic gender inequality" and bereft of characters who are disabled, LGBT, poor or minority.

The authors offered all sorts of suggestions to content creators, such as developing shows for the "audience of tomorrow" while conceding that "racially diverse on-screen characters (are) somewhat reflective of the actual population."

They also recommend that programs feature fewer fantasy characters because "children learn prosocial behaviors better from stories with human characters."

It is certainly true that what children watch and digest affects their understanding of the world. That's why so many parents limit and curate what their children are exposed to on TV. And it's why so many parents, like myself, opt for programs that portray fantasy or even idyllic worlds that avoid violence, death and suffering. Our kids will face the realities of this world, its challenges and adversities soon enough.

But the most galling thing about these reports isn't their judgment of TV content, it's that they seem to want TV programs to transplant the role of parents. They shouldn't.

Surely I'm not the only mom who isn't relying on television programs to address racial or gender inequities, to introduce my kids to people of differing physical or mental abilities or to present concepts like socioeconomic gaps. That should be (and is) coming from me. And I'm guessing that most parents feel the same.

I hope these reports don't motivate the creators of the fantasy rainbow kingdom in "True" or the charming Scottish bird family of "Puffin Rock" to change their content. But either way, start braving the heat more and watching less TV.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



mofo`na mina` ma`ug ya esta pa`gu tana sesetbe diariamente. Biba finu` Chamoru!

Karissu

Guaha sessu man-na`e akonsehu pot tanu` yan kuttura. Masaulag eskaleran professot karissu `nai mapo`lu na tita tuñgu` disposision tanu` familia yan kutturán natibu.

Haye mas tumuñgu` asuntun tanu` familia ke mangai tanu`? Magahet na para ta malefan ñaihon haf` tinatteta kustumbre yan kuttura? Kuantu pot sientu gi dos maliñgu pot diskuidu?

Yayas yan tai sustansia na akonsehu! I puntu: ti nigap na finañagu i in` kuentutuse! Dispues, hamyu para in` prebeniye familia gi nesessidat niha? Lokue`, haye hamyu umapunta ma`gas akonsehun tanu` yan kuttura? Haf` ya in` sede i man-dueñu dumispone tanu` niha?

Niyug

I troñkun niyug un` tinanum ni gaige gi todou islas gi halum enteru Islas Pasifiku. Gi halacha machule` `nos kuantus para iya Turkey para uma-estudiaye kau gai setbe gi ma-amten chenut kanset.

Magahet na i niyug un` troñku `nai todou gai bali punta pot punta. I hagu tana` setbe para atuf guma` siguale, troñku para halige, i hagasas para balutan neñkanu`, punut para tali yan sugu ñamu `an pueñge yan otru siha usu.

Deste manha, ma`sun para ahu, niyug (pontan) para katdun katne yan guihan. Dispues, kumu kulan hinalulula hau puta` i faha` ya un` kanu`. Adahe na kubre todou patte guine na troñku. Piot ya un` fagcha`e niyug kanu`un!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Repeal Article 12

Article 12 of our Constitution must be repealed!

The simplest way to accomplish the *repeal* is for our Legislature to exercise their power—legislative initiative.

We need to abolish Article 12 of our Constitution and give back the right of every "fee simple" landowners their unilateral right to their property.

David M. Sablan Sr.

Papago, Saipan

UNEASY

From Page 10






Then Trump moved into his most comfortable mode: division, condescension, name-calling, accusation. And racism. You don't have to use the N-word to be a racist, and if "racist" still has any meaning at all, it finds an extremely apt usage when it describes a white man telling native-born American citizens of color to go back where they came from. And if you can't admit that it's racist, let's just call it mean-spirited and patently un-American.

But it's not Trump that gives me the same nagging, uneasy feeling that I experienced in September 2016. It's his audience, a cheering, enthusiastic crowd of ordinary white people who are willing to accept Trump's disregard for the truth. Further, their willingness to allow themselves to be churned up by Trump's ugly rhetoric and their eagerness to join in a cruel, spiteful chant—"Send her back!"—against fellow Americans is alarming.

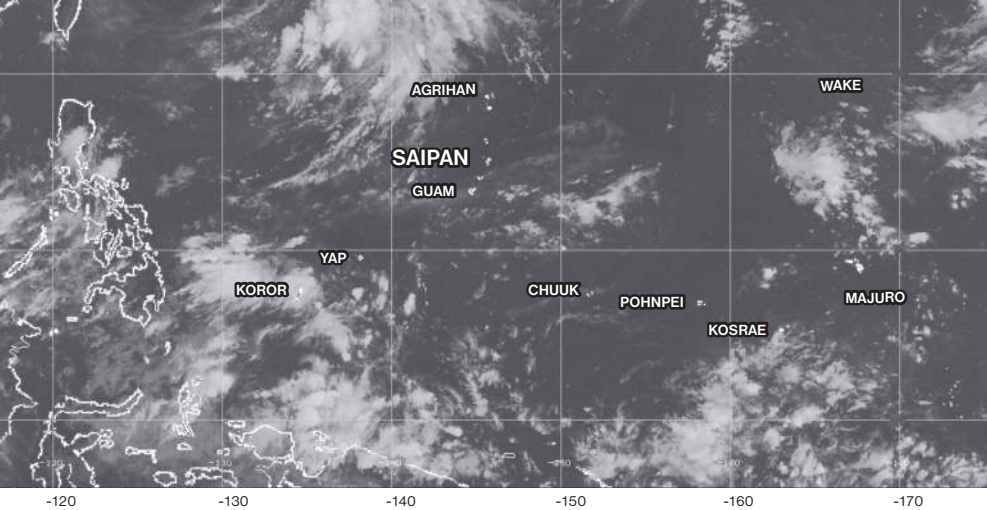
But Trump's frenzied crowds are Americans, too. They worry me as much as Trump does. Indeed, the 2020 election will tell us a lot about what kind of nation we are.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
90°78°	90°78°	90°78°	90°78°	90°78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:44 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough is seen to the east of the Marianas and is slowly approaching the islands. This trough will bring increasing deep layer moisture to the region by Wednesday morning. Upper-level divergence associated with the trough will help fuel isolated thunderstorms Wednesday into Thursday. A surface trough that is farther east of the Marianas will approach the islands, prolonging the risk of thunderstorms into Friday. Models are indicating a drier period for Saturday and Sunday. Therefore, maintained isolated thunderstorms for Wednesday through Friday night and removed thunder from the forecast for Saturday. Another round of thunderstorms is expected early next week with the arrival of another surface currently near the Date Line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 52°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	89° / 77°	
London	Partly Cloudy	91° / 70°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	91° / 72°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	61° / 52°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	89° / 80°	
New York	Mostly Cloudy	83° / 68°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°	
Paris	Sunny	95° / 73°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°	
Rome	Sunny	97° / 73°	
Salem	Thunderstorms	84° / 65°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	69° / 54°	
Seoul	Rain	82° / 75°	
Tokyo	Showers	88° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	83° / 66°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.93	
7:07 AM	LOW TIDE	0.97	
12:18 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.56	
6:35 PM	LOW TIDE	0.76	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:57 AM	6:48 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:34 AM	11:47 PM
Thursday	-	12:22 PM	-
Friday	12:26 AM	1:12 PM	-
Saturday	1:07 AM	2:05 PM	-
Sunday	1:53 AM	3:01 PM	-

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 5, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	4:00am	7:00am	3	7C3452	10:00pm	3:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	10:05pm	3:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 5	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
				2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
				2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Deal sealed on federal budget, ensuring no shutdown, default

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump and congressional leaders announced Monday a critical debt and budget agreement that’s an against-the-odds victory for Washington pragmatists seeking to avoid political and economic tumult over the possibility of a government shutdown or first-ever federal default.

The deal, announced by Trump on Twitter and in a statement by Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer, will restore the government’s ability to borrow to pay its bills past next year’s elections and build upon recent large budget gains for both the Pentagon and domestic agencies.

“I am pleased to announce that a deal has been struck,” Trump tweeted, saying there will be no “poison pills” added to follow-up legislation. “This was a real compromise in order to give another big victory to our Great Military and Vets!”

The agreement is on a broad outline for \$1.37 trillion in agency spending next year and slightly more in fis-



Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., addresses the NAACP convention, Monday, July 22, 2019, in Detroit.

cal 2021. It would mean a win for lawmakers eager to return Washington to a more predictable path amid political turmoil and polarization, de-

fense hawks determined to cement big military increases and Democrats seeking to protect domestic programs. Nobody notched a big

win, but both sides view it as better than a protracted battle this fall. Pelosi and Schumer said the deal “will enhance our national security and invest in middle class priorities that ad-

vance the health, financial security and well-being of the American people.” Top congressional GOP leaders issued more restrained statements stressing that the deal is a flawed but achievable out-

come of a government in which Pelosi wields considerable power. “While this deal is not perfect, compromise is necessary in divided government,” said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. However, it also comes as budget deficits are rising to \$1 trillion levels—requiring the government to borrow a quarter for every dollar the government spends—despite the thriving economy and three rounds of annual Trump budget proposals promising to crack down on the domestic programs that Pelosi is successfully defending now. It ignores warnings from deficit and debt scolds who say the nation’s fiscal future is unsustainable and will eventually drag down the economy. “This agreement is a total abdication of fiscal responsibility by Congress and the president,” said Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a Washington advocacy group. “It may end up being the worst budget agreement in our nation’s history, proposed at a time when our fiscal conditions are already precarious.”

Docomo Pacific joins with AT&T to support FirstNet Deployment

TAMUNING, Guam—Docomo Pacific was recently selected by AT&T to help support the deployment of FirstNet—America’s public safety communications platform—in both Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

FirstNet delivers a single, nationwide network platform that’s purpose-built to enhance communications across the entire public safety community. FirstNet is available to all first responders – career and volunteer, urban, rural or tribal. And it’s bringing public safety communications into the 21st century with new, innovative capabilities, helping first responders connect to the critical information they need – every day and in every emergency. FirstNet is being built with AT&T in a public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) – an independent agency within the federal government.

Our island communities are all too familiar with the de-

structive forces nature can bring to our region. The key to staying ready and responding is effective and reliable communication— which is exactly what FirstNet is designed to enable for our region’s first responders.

Based on the collaboration with AT&T, Docomo Pacific will provide access to its existing LTE network coverage and capacity while helping to build out additional LTE coverage with the FirstNet Band 14 spectrum.

“We’re pleased to support the FirstNet mission. This will help transform the way Guam and CNMI’s Public Safety and emergency officials share information quickly when they need to most. So, when lives are on the line, we can rest assured knowing our public safety officials are equipped and have the necessary tools to communicate with our island community,” said Docomo Pacific president and CEO Roderick Boss.

Boss adds as the biggest and

widest telecommunications provider in the Marianas, it was a natural partnership for Docomo Pacific and FirstNet. When Super Typhoon Yutu struck the CNMI in October 2018, Docomo Pacific’s mobile network remained intact both during and after the storm, keeping families connected through one of the biggest storms in history. This was made possible by Docomo Pacific’s undersea cable system which survived Super Typhoon Yutu unscathed.

Additionally, Docomo Pacific is an authorized member of AT&T’s FirstNet Dealer Program, which means it can sell FirstNet services to eligible current and future public safety customers. This will help get FirstNet’s game-changing technology into the hands of first responders throughout the region.

To learn more about Docomo Pacific, go to www.docomopacific.com. To learn more about FirstNet, check out FirstNet.com. (PR)

Equifax to pay up to \$700M in data breach settlement

NEW YORK (AP)—Equifax will pay at least \$700 million — and potentially much more — to settle lawsuits over a 2017 data breach that exposed the Social Security numbers and similar sensitive information of roughly half of the U.S. population.

The settlement with federal authorities and states, reached Monday, includes up to \$425 million in monetary relief to consumers, a \$100 million civil penalty, and other offers to the nearly 150 million people who could have been affected. It can’t, however, guarantee safety for individuals whose stolen information could circulate on the internet for decades.

The breach was one of the largest ever to threaten Americans’ private information. The credit reporting company didn’t notice the intruders targeting its databases, who exploited a known security vulnerability that Equifax hadn’t

fixed, for more than six weeks. The compromised data included Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses, driver license numbers, credit card numbers and in some cases, data from passports. The resulting scandal led to the abrupt dismissal of Equifax’s then-CEO and many other executives at the company.

“Companies that profit from personal information have an extra responsibility to protect and secure that data,” said Federal Trade Commission Chairman Joe Simons. “Equifax failed to take basic steps that may have prevented the breach.”

Equifax CEO Mark Begor said in a statement that the settlement “reinforces our commitment to putting consumers first and safeguarding their data.”

Consumer advocates were generally positive on the settlement, but had concerns

about its timescale. Claims can only be filed for the next four years, but the thieves stole permanently identifiable information like Social Security numbers and birthdates, the data could be used for decades to commit identity theft. “What happens if a consumer is the victim of ID theft in the fifth year resulting from the breach, which costs the consumer tens of thousands of dollars?” said Chi Chi Wu, staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center. Shares of Equifax, which plunged 30% following disclosure of the breach, have since made up that drop. On Monday, Equifax stock price closed at \$137.84 — not far from its price of \$141.45, where it was trading just before the breach was disclosed on Sept. 7, 2017. Business analysts say the settlement will remove a cloud of uncertainty over Equifax’s business.

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

S&P

2,985.03

+8.42

+0.28%

DOW

27,171.90

+17.70

+0.07%

NASDAQ

8,204.14

+57.65

+0.71%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.81	Russian Ruble	1.36
Australian Dollar	1.42	Singapore Dollar	1.37
British Pound	0.80	Indonesian Rupiah	13,762.58
Canadian Dollar	1.31	Malaysian Ringgit	4.07
Chinese Yuan	6.76	New Zealand Dollar	1.49
Euro	0.89	Philippine Peso	50.11
		South Korean Won	1,158.69
		Swiss Franc	0.98
		Taiwan Dollar	30.56
		Thailand Baht	30.85

Nation

Trump expands fast-track deportation authority across US

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The Trump administration announced Monday that it will vastly extend the authority of immigration officers to deport migrants without allowing them to appear before judges, its second major policy shift on immigration in eight days.

Starting Tuesday, fast-track deportations can apply to anyone in the country illegally for less than two years. Previously, those deportations were largely limited to people arrested almost immediately after crossing the Mexican border.

Kevin McAleenan, the acting Homeland Security secretary, portrayed the nationwide extension of “expedited removal” authority as another Trump administration effort to address an “ongoing crisis on the southern border” by freeing up beds in detention facilities and reducing a backlog of more than 900,000 cases in immigration courts.

U.S. authorities do not have space to detain “the vast majority” of people arrested on the Mexican border, leading to the release of hundreds of thousands with notices to appear in court, McAleenan said in the policy directive to be published Tuesday in the Federal Register. He said Homeland Security officials with the new deportation power will deport migrants in the country illegally more quickly than the Justice Department’s immigration courts, where cases can take years to resolve.

The agency “expects that

In this July 8, 2019, file photo, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers transfer a man in handcuffs and ankle cuffs onto a van during an operation in Escondido, Calif.

AP



the full use of expedited removal statutory authority will strengthen national security, diminish the number of illegal entries, and otherwise ensure the prompt removal of aliens apprehended in the United States,” McAleenan said.

The American Civil Liberties Union and American Immigration Council said they would sue to block the policy.

“Under this unlawful plan, immigrants who have lived here for years would be deported with less due process than people get in traffic court,” said Omar Jawdat, director of the ACLU’s Immigrants’ Rights Project.

“Expedited removal” gives enforcement agencies broad authority to deport people without allowing them to appear before an immigration judge with limited exceptions, including if they express fear of returning home and pass an initial screening interview for asylum.

The powers were created under a 1996 law but went largely unnoticed until 2004, when Homeland Security said it would be enforced for people who are arrested within two weeks of entering the U.S. by land and caught within 100 miles (160 kilometers) of the border.

The fast-track deportations

have become a major piece of U.S. immigration enforcement over the last decade. Critics have said it grants too much power to immigration agents and U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials.

The potential impact of the new measure is difficult to predict. McAleenan said 20,570 people arrested in the nation’s interior from October 2017 through September 2018 year had been in the U.S. less than two years, which would make them eligible for fast-track deportation under the new rule. Critics said the new measure’s impact could be more far-reaching because

many in the U.S. for longer than two years may be unable to prove they have been in the country for so long.

“Expanding the fast-track procedure to apply anywhere in the U.S. is a recipe for ripping thousands more families apart and devastating communities,” said Grace Meng, Human Rights Watch’s U.S. program acting deputy director. “This is a massive and dangerous change.”

The administration said the expanded authority will likely mean less time for migrants in detention while cases wind their way through immigration court. The average stay

in immigration detention for people in fast-track removal was 11.4 days from October 2017 through September 2018, compared to 51.5 days for people arrested in the nation’s interior.

The announcement was the second major policy shift in eight days following an unprecedented surge of families from Central America’s Northern Triangle of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.

Last week, the administration said it will deny asylum to anyone who passes through other countries en route to the U.S. without seeking protection in at least one of those countries. Two lawsuits were filed challenging the move. A judge in Washington, D.C., heard arguments Monday on whether to block the policy. Judge Timothy Kelly said he would “endeavor to rule on this as quickly as I can.”

A judge in San Francisco has set a hearing for Wednesday in a similar lawsuit.

Also Monday, a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a decision by a federal judge in Seattle that blocked a policy to indefinitely detain asylum seekers without a chance to be released on bond. The policy to deny bond hearings had been set to take effect July 15.

The White House issued a statement Monday night saying, “We strongly disagree with that decision and expect to prevail on the merits of the appeal and to see the law upheld.”

Federal judge hears challenge to Arkansas abortion laws

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—An official with Arkansas’ only surgical abortion clinic said Monday that the facility could close within a month if a federal judge doesn’t block a new law restricting who can perform abortions in the state.

The clinic director of Little Rock Family Planning Services said during a hearing that the facility has only one physician who complies with the requirement that doctors performing abortions be board-certified or board-eligible in obstetrics and gynecology. That physician, Frederick Hopkins, lives in California and only works at the Little Rock clinic for three to four days every other month.

“We would not be able to maintain our current staffing, we would not be able to cover the overhead of operations,” Lori Williams said at the hearing before U.S. District Court Judge Kristine Baker.

Baker heard testimony in a request to block that law and two other abortion restric-

tions before they take effect Wednesday. The laws are being challenged by Little Rock Family Planning and Planned Parenthood, which only offers medication-induced abortions at its Arkansas facilities. Planned Parenthood earlier this month stopped providing medication-induced abortions at its Fayetteville facility while it looks for a new location, but is still providing the procedure at its Little Rock center.

Of two other laws being challenged, one would ban abortions 18 weeks into a woman’s pregnancy and the other prohibits doctors from performing the procedure if it’s solely being sought because the fetus was diagnosed with Down syndrome. The laws are among several abortion restrictions approved by Arkansas’ Republican-dominated Legislature this year.

Baker did not rule at the end of a daylong hearing on the bid to block the laws and said she would issue a written decision later.

Under current Arkansas law, a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state can perform abortions. The additional qualification for abortion doctors taking effect this week is similar to a Mississippi law a federal judge upheld last year. Opponents say the requirement eliminates a large number of physicians who have had training in the procedure. The state has argued the additional qualification would protect patients.

Williams said Little Rock Family Planning had sent a letter to every obstetrician-gynecologist in the state to see if there were any who are board-certified or eligible who would be willing to work at the clinic, but did not hear back from any. Williams said part of the problem is the stigma, especially across the South, of working for an abortion provider.

Arkansas faces the prospect of losing its only surgical provider while neighboring Missouri’s only abortion clinic is fighting to continue providing the service.

Study: Millions should stop taking aspirin for heart health

WASHINGTON (AP)—Millions of people who take aspirin to prevent a heart attack may need to rethink the pill-popping, Harvard researchers reported Monday.

A daily low-dose aspirin is recommended for people who have already had a heart attack or stroke and for those diagnosed with heart disease.

But for the otherwise healthy, that advice has been overturned. Guidelines released this year ruled out routine aspirin use for many older adults who don’t already have heart disease—and said it’s only for certain younger people under doctor’s orders.

How many people need to get that message?

Some 29 million people 40 and older were taking an aspirin a day despite having no known heart disease in 2017, the latest data available, according to a new study from Harvard and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. About 6.6 million of them were do-

ing so on their own—a doctor never recommended it.

And nearly half of people over 70 who don’t have heart disease—estimated at about 10 million—were taking daily aspirin for prevention, the researchers reported in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

“Many patients are confused about this,” said Dr. Colin O’Brien, a senior internal medicine resident at Beth Israel who led the study.

After all, for years doctors urged people to leverage aspirin’s blood-thinning properties to lower the chances of a first heart attack or stroke. Then last year, three surprising new studies challenged that dogma. Those studies were some of the largest and longest to test aspirin in people at low and moderate risk of a heart attack, and found only marginal benefit if any, especially for older adults. Yet the aspirin users experienced markedly more digestive-tract bleeding, along

with some other side effects.

In March, those findings prompted a change in guidelines from the American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology:

■ People over 70 who don’t have heart disease—or are younger but at increased risk of bleeding—should avoid daily aspirin for prevention.

■ Only certain 40- to 70-year-olds who don’t already have heart disease are at high enough risk to warrant 75 to 100 milligrams of aspirin daily, and that’s for a doctor to decide.

Nothing has changed for heart attack survivors: Aspirin still is recommended for them.

But there’s no way to know how many otherwise healthy people got the word about the changed recommendations.

“We hope that more primary care doctors will talk to their patients about aspirin use, and more patients will raise this with their doctors,” O’Brien said.

Asia

Duterte: Can't stop China in disputed seas, won't risk clash

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Monday there was no way to stop Chinese from fishing in his country's exclusive economic zone and he would not risk losing Filipino forces in a clash in the disputed South China Sea.

"When Xi says 'I will fish,' who can prevent him?" Duterte said as he defended his nonconfrontational approach to China over the territorial disputes in his annual state of the nation address before a joint session of Congress. He was referring to Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"If I send my marines to drive away the Chinese fishermen, I guarantee you not one of them will come home alive," Duterte said, adding

that diplomatic talks with Beijing have allowed the return of Filipinos to disputed fishing grounds where Chinese forces previously shooed them away.

Critics have repeatedly criticized Duterte, who has nurtured friendly ties with Beijing, for not standing up to China's aggressive behavior in the disputed waters and deciding not to immediately seek Chinese compliance with an international arbitration ruling that invalidated Beijing historic claims to virtually the entire sea. China has refused to recognize the 2016 ruling.

The decision also found that China had breached its duty to respect the traditional fishing rights of Filipinos when Chinese forces blocked them from the Scarborough Shoal off the

northwestern Philippines in 2012. The Philippines, however, could also not deny Chinese fishermen access to Scarborough, according to the ruling. But the decision did not specify any traditional fishing areas within the Philippines' exclusive zone where the Chinese could be allowed to fish.

An exclusive economic zone is a 200-nautical-mile (370-kilometer) stretch of water where a coastal state has exclusive rights to fish and exploit other resources as well as undersea gas and oil based on the 1982 U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.

On his battle against illegal drugs and corruption, Duterte asked Congress to reinstate the death penalty for drug-related heinous crimes and economic plunder. He said the drug menace, which he called a "social monster," could not be crushed unless corruption is eliminated.

The Philippines' long-simmering territorial rifts with China and Duterte's centerpiece campaign against illegal drugs and corruption were spotlighted in his speech. But he also asked for Congress's help in dealing with diverse social ills and governance issues ranging from slow internet services and delays in releases of government clearances to traffic jams.

Duterte outlined problems he had resolved, sometimes through scare tactics, like the



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures during his 4th State of the Nation Address at the House of Representatives in Quezon city, metropolitan Manila, Philippines Monday July 22, 2019. **AP**

easing of a water shortage last summer in Manila, the capital, after he threatened to fire officials.

Although the annual speech is traditionally replete in protocol and formality, he injected sexual jokes, curses and threats that have been the trademark of his often-rambling speeches. During the Manila water crisis, for ex-

ample, he said he did not want to travel to the city. "What if my girlfriend will not be able to take a bath, she will smell like hell," he said.

When he asked Congress to pass new tax reforms that would further raise excise taxes on tobacco and alcohol, Duterte asked if there were any smokers in the audience, which included foreign dip-

lomats: "Who smokes here? They should be exterminated from the face of the earth."

Duterte, 74, took office in June 2016 and has remained hugely popular in opinion polls despite drug war deaths that have sparked international alarm and other controversial policies.

More of his allies captured congressional seats in mid-term elections in May, giving them a tighter grip on the legislature, especially in the 24-member Senate, which opposed some of his key legislative proposals last year, including reinstating the death penalty and amending the pro-democracy constitution.

More than 5,200 demonstrators rallied despite a downpour outside the House complex to call for Duterte's removal, while a smaller number of pro-Duterte supporters protested separately. Left wing protesters burned a mock Chinese flag and a giant mural with images of Duterte, Chinese President Xi and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Military and police were placed on full alert and authorities declared a no-fly zone over the venue and outlying areas to ensure security.

"We have had enough of this government's 'kill, kill, kill' policy," said Danilo Ramos, a left wing leader of a farmers' group. "The Duterte presidency is killing its constituents in so many ways."

ASIA BRIEFS

South Korea fires warning shots at Russian warplanes

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean jets fired warning shots after a Russian military plane violated South Korea's airspace on Tuesday, Seoul officials said, in the first such incident between the countries. Three Russian military planes initially entered South Korea's air defense identification zone off its east coast before one of them entered the country's territorial sky, the South's Defense Ministry said. South Korean fighter jets then scrambled to the area to fire warning shots, a ministry official said, requesting anonymity due to department rules. The Russian plane left the area but it returned and violated the South Korean airspace again later Tuesday, the ministry official said. He said the South Korean fighter jets fired warning shots again. Each time, the Russian plane didn't return fire, the official said. It was the first time a Russian military plane violated South Korean airspace, according to South Korean officials.

Kim inspects new submarine, wants NKorean military bolstered

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea leader Kim Jong Un has inspected a newly built submarine and ordered officials to further bolster the country's military capability, state media reported Tuesday, as the North is increasing its pressure on the United States ahead of the possible resumption of nuclear diplomacy. Last

week, North Korea said it may lift its 20-month suspension of nuclear and missile tests to protest expected military drills between the United States and South Korea that North Korea views as an invasion rehearsal. The Korean Central News Agency reported Kim expressed "great satisfaction" with the submarine after learning about its operational and tactical data and weapon systems. Kim "stressed the need to steadily and reliably increase the national defense capability by directing big efforts to the development of the naval weapons and equipment such as submarine," according to KCNA.

Cambodian leader denies allowing China naval base

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen has strongly denied allowing China to set up a military outpost in the Southeast Asian nation, after a news report alleged that the two nations signed a secret pact allowing Beijing exclusive use of a naval base on the Gulf of Thailand. Hun Sen told the pro-government Fresh News website Monday that the report by The Wall Street Journal was "the worst distorted news," and that Cambodia had never discussed with China setting up a base. The Journal's report said an early draft of the reputed agreement would allow China use of the Ream naval base for 30 years, where it would be able to post military personnel, store weapons and berth warships. China is Cambodia's biggest investor and closest political partner.

HONG KONG (AP)—An overnight attack by white-clad assailants apparently targeting pro-democracy protesters raised tensions to new levels in Hong Kong on Monday as China harshly criticized the weekend demonstration, saying "central authority cannot be challenged."

The Chinese rebuke came after its Hong Kong office was targeted Sunday night by protesters who pelted it with eggs and spray-painted its walls. It made no mention of the violent attack hours later at a subway station by men wielding iron pipes and wooden poles as they beat up people clad in the pro-democracy movement's black shirts. Dozens were injured.

The attack on China's Liaison Office was an escalation of the weeklong protests, during which demonstrators besieged Hong Kong's legislature and police headquarters but did not direct their ire at China itself. It came after more than 100,000 people marched through the city to demand democracy and an investigation

into the use of force by police to disperse crowds at protests.

As demonstrators made their way home, a gang of men descended on a group of them at a subway station. Video of the attack in Hong Kong's Yuen Long neighborhood showed the protesters being beaten by the assailants as they retreated into the trains, intimidated by the gangs of men waiting for them outside the turnstiles. The attackers then entered the trains and beat the people inside as they tried to defend themselves with umbrellas.

At least 45 people were injured, and 15 remained hospitalized Monday afternoon, including one man in critical condition, the Hospital Authority said.

Subway passengers filmed by Stand News and iCABLE angrily accused police officers of not intervening to protect the demonstrators, who have been critical of the police use of force.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Monday that allegations that police had colluded

with the assailants were "unfounded."

The Sunday night assault on Beijing's Hong Kong Liaison Office touched a raw nerve in China. China's national emblem, which hangs on the front of the building, was splattered with black ink. It was replaced by a new one within hours.

The official People's Daily newspaper, in a front-page commentary on Monday headlined "Central Authority Cannot Be Challenged," called the protesters' actions "intolerable."

"These acts openly challenged the authority of the central government and touched the bottom line of the 'one country, two systems' principle," the government's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office said in a statement Sunday.

Lam repeated the same statement to reporters Monday, adding that the vandalism "hurt the nation's feelings."

The "one country, two systems" framework, under which the former British colony was returned to China in 1997, allows Hong Kong to maintain a fair degree of autonomy in lo-

cal affairs. Demonstrators fear the pro-Beijing government in Hong Kong is chipping away at their rights and freedoms, and the weeklong tumult has fueled fears of a more aggressive Chinese response.

In Washington, President Donald Trump said he believes Chinese leader Xi Jinping has acted "very responsibly" in allowing the extended protests to play out in Hong Kong. Asked about China's handling of the protests, he said that "China could stop them if they wanted."

"I hope that President Xi will do the right thing. But it has been going on a long time," Trump added, without elaborating.

Meanwhile, a group of pro-China lawmakers held a news conference appealing for a halt to the violence, saying it was a blow to Hong Kong's reputation and was scaring away tourists and investors.

They also urged police to tighten enforcement against the protesters, whom Regina Ip, a former security secretary, called "rebels."

World

Venezuela capital in the dark again after massive blackout

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The lights went out across much of Venezuela Monday, reviving fears of the blackouts that plunged the country into chaos a few months ago as the government once again accused opponents of sabotaging the nation's hydroelectric power system.

The power in the capital went out after 4 p.m. (2000 GMT) and immediately backed up traffic as stop lights and the subway stopped working during rush hour.

"This is horrible, a disaster," Reni Blanco, a 48-year-

old teacher, said as she joined a crush of people who flooded into the streets of the capital trying to make it home before nightfall.

Almost three hours into the blackout authorities broke their silence and blamed an "electromagnetic attack" on a series of dams located in southern Venezuela—the same culprit it attributed an almost week-long outage in March that left millions of Venezuelans without water or the ability to communicate with loved ones.

"Those who've systematical-

ly attacked the noble people of Venezuela in all kinds of ways will once again be confronted with the mettle and courage that we, the children of our liberator Simón Bolívar, have demonstrated in the face of difficulties," Communications Minister Jorge Rodríguez said in a statement read on state TV.

Rodriguez said authorities were working to restore electricity as quickly as possible. He said security forces had been deployed, and contingency plans activated, to guarantee basic medical services and keep streets safe.

But as night fell on Caracas many were wondering how long they would be left in the dark.

"Without light we have nothing," said María Teresa González, fretting over the meat she had in her freezer if the outage wore on as she walked her dog in the last rays of the evening sun.

Reports on social media said that 19 of 24 Venezuelan states were also affected. Netblocks, a group monitoring internet activity, said network data showed most of Venezuela was knocked offline with national connectivity at just

6% after the latest cuts. Normally non-stop state TV, a key way for the government to keep people informed, was also off the air for a while, adding to frustrations.

President Nicolás Maduro blamed the March outage on a U.S.-sponsored attack against the nation's biggest hydroelectric dam. More recently, as power service in the politically turbulent capital has improved amid widespread rationing in the interior, officials have even taken to downplaying the outages as similar to a nationwide blackout in Argentina and even one that knocked off the power for several thousand residents of Manhattan for a few hours amid the summer heat.

But his opponents said the outage laid bare years of underinvestment in the nation's grid by corrupt officials who mismanaged an oil bonanza in the nation sitting atop the world's largest crude reserves.

"They tried to hide the tragedy by rationing supplies across the country, but their failure is evident: they destroyed the system and they don't have answers," opposition leader Juan Guaidó said on Twitter.

Guaidó, who the U.S. and more than 50 other nations recognize as Venezuela's rightful leader, reiterated an earlier call for nationwide protests on Tuesday.

"We Venezuelans won't grow accustomed to this," he said.



A public transportation bus is packed with passengers during a blackout in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, July 22, 2019.

AP

Israeli crews demolish Palestinian homes in east Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli work crews on Monday began demolishing dozens of Palestinian homes on the outskirts of an east Jerusalem neighborhood, in one of the largest operations of its kind in years.

The demolitions capped a years-long legal battle over the buildings, constructed near the invisible line straddling the city and the occupied West Bank. Israel says the buildings were erected too close to its West Bank separation barrier. Residents say the buildings are on West Bank land, and the Palestinian Authority gave them construction permits.

In the wake of a recent Supreme Court decision clearing the way for the demolitions, Israeli work crews moved into the neighborhood overnight. Massive construction vehicles smashed through the roofs of several buildings, and large excavators were digging

through the rubble.

Gilad Erdan, Israel's minister of public security, said the Supreme Court ruled the illegal construction "constitutes a severe security threat and can provide cover to suicide bombers and other terrorists hiding among civilian population."

He said that those who built houses along the separation barrier "took the law into their own hands."

According to the United Nations, some 20 people already living in the buildings were being displaced, while 350 owners of properties that were under construction or not yet inhabited were also affected.

In a joint statement, senior U.N. humanitarian officials in the region expressed "sadness" over the demolitions and warned that many other homes could face "the same fate."

"Israel's policy of destroying Palestinian property is not compatible with its obligations

under international humanitarian law," they said.

Hussein al-Sheikh, head of the civil affairs department of the Palestinians Authority, called Monday's demolition a "crime" and demanded international intervention.

In Gaza, the territory's Hamas rulers called for intensifying "resistance" to "the Zionist settlement project."

"The increase in the occupation's crimes against the residents of the holy city is a result of total American support," said Hazem Qassem, a spokesman for the militant group.

Israel captured east Jerusalem and the West Bank in the 1967 Mideast war. The international community considers both areas to be occupied territory, and the Palestinians seek them as parts of a future independent state.

Israel annexed east Jerusalem and considers it part of its capital—a step that is not in-

ternationally recognized. But the competing claims to the territory have created myriad legal complexities.

Israel built its separation barrier in the early 2000s in a move it says was needed to prevent Palestinian suicide bombers from reaching Israel from the West Bank. The Palestinians say the structure is an illegal land grab because it juts into the West Bank in many places.

Sur Baher is one of those places. In negotiations with residents, Israel built the route of the structure in Sur Baher inside the West Bank to prevent dividing the village and disrupting life, according to court documents.

Residents, claiming it is impossible to get Israeli building permits in east Jerusalem, began building the apartment buildings in the West Bank part of the village with permission from the Palestinian Authority.

Syrian activists say airstrikes kill 27 in rebel-held town

BEIRUT (AP)—Multiple airstrikes hit a busy market in a rebel-controlled town in northwestern Syria on Monday, killing at least 27 people and turning several buildings into piles of rubble, according to opposition activists and a war monitor. Shortly afterward, state media said rebels shelled a government-held village, killing seven.

The high death toll marked a sharp increase in the escalation between the two sides amid intense fighting. Government troops, backed by Russian air cover, have been trying since April to push their way into the enclave in the northwestern corner of Syria, near the Turkish border.

Dominated by al-Qaida-linked militants and other jihadi groups, Idlib province and northern parts of the nearby Hama region is the last major rebel stronghold in the country outside the control of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Despite the heavy bombardment, Assad's forces have been unable to make any significant advances. Militant groups have hit back hard, killing an average of more than a dozen soldiers and allied militiamen per day in recent weeks.

The fighting has killed more than 2,000 people and displaced hundreds of thousands.

The struggling campaign also underscores the limits of Syria's and Russia's airpower and inability to achieve a definitive victory in the country's long-running civil war, now in its ninth year.

Monday's airstrikes took place in the town of Maaret al-Numan and also wounded more than 30 people, according to the reports from the region, which has witnessed intensive airstrikes and bombardment almost every day for the past three months. The strikes came in several rounds and caused widespread destruction, burying several people under the rubble.

Hours after the airstrikes, paramedics were able to remove a little girl alive, rushing her to a nearby ambulance.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor, called it the largest single death toll since a Russian-Turkish truce collapsed in late April.

Syrian state news agency SANA said insurgents shelled the village of Jourin in the northern part of Hama province, killing seven civilians when a shell hit a moving car. State TV also reported that insurgents shelled the government-held town of Suqailabiyah, wounding four people, including a child, while a shell hit a university in the coastal city of Latakia, a government stronghold, without causing any casualties.

Syrian opposition activists said Russian warplanes carried out Monday's airstrikes, but Russia's Defense Ministry dismissed the reports as a "hoax," adding that the Russian air force didn't "carry out any missions in that area in Syria." There was no immediate comment from the Syrian government.

Focus

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—José Troche, a 64-year-old doctor from Yauco, sat under the shade in a beach chair as he waited for the march to begin.

"This right now is a dream," he said as he gestured toward the massive crowd in Puerto Rico's capital. "The people are united."

Troche believes Puerto Rico is at a crossroads, and that the upheaval will force people to be more conscious about who they vote into office next year. He said the historic protests have changed the way people think about the island's political parties and their associations with them: "We have to kick out everyone who is a traitor to the people, regardless of their (political) color."

When he was younger, he imagined Puerto Rico would have a strong economy and be self-sufficient by this time, but he doesn't see that happening for at least another 40 years.

"They have misspent the money, and now we're paying for it," he said in reference to government officials. "We're indignant with the island's situation; so much corruption and lack of respect."

Rebecca Claudio, a 36-year-old who owns a landscaping company with her husband in the central mountain town of Aibonito, decided to join the protest for

her two children.

She and her husband would like to see major improvements in the quality of health and education services that Puerto Rico provides and believe Rosselló should step aside to allow someone else to lead the island and implement what they say are badly needed changes.

"Nothing has improved, except for only a select few," she said, adding that the protests are giving her hope. "A united people can achieve a lot."

Claudio said her 10-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter are in public school, but that they don't have any art or theater classes and lack even basic supplies.

"Sometimes they aren't able to take tests because there's no paper," she said. "Sometimes they don't even have toilet paper."

Germán Alejandro Ortiz

wiped tears from his eyes as the 43-year-old businessman explained why he decided to join Monday's protest: "Our people are suffering ... We need leaders who will truly take care of our people, not of their friends."

Ortiz comes from a pro-statehood family, attended the same high school as Rosselló and voted for his father when he ran for governor, but now he wants new people in charge so they can fight corruption and help turn around the island's economic crisis.

"Right now I don't have the money to put my daughter in a private school," he said as he shook his head.

Ada Torres, who is 27 and unemployed, said she moved back to Puerto Rico from Dallas one month ago because she missed the island, but now she has doubts about its future.

She said she would like to

Puerto Rico protests

Thousands protest for the removal of Gov. Ricardo Rosselló after 889 pages of chat showed the governor and his advisers insulting women and mocking constituents, including the victims of Hurricane Maria.



The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

Governor: Ricardo Rosselló
Population: 3.4 million (2017)

Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States, and sends one non-voting commissioner to the U.S. House of Representatives. People born in Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens.

Source: CIA World Factbook, AP
Graphic: Tribune News Service

find a job in medical billing and coding but the economic crisis is making it difficult.

However, Torres said she was inspired by Monday's massive turnout and plans to remain in Puerto Rico with the hope that things will eventually change.

"I found it more united than ever, and it excites me so much," she said. "I like how they're not thinking about the political status, but thinking about what's best for the island."

Lydia Hernández, a 62-year-old retiree, said she joined the protest to help guarantee a better future for her children and granddaughter.

"I'm happy this is happening," she said as she gestured toward protesters chanting for the governor's resignation. "I see a determined people. I see a people who defends itself. We will clean house."

Hernández said the change began after Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico as a Category 4 storm on Sept. 20, 2017, and caused more than an estimated \$100 billion in damage.

"People got out of their comfort zone and saw what was really happening," she said, adding she is tired of the government's corruption. "The island is suffering."

Giovanni André Correa, a 17-year-old high school student, joined the protest with his brother even though he believes he will move to the U.S. mainland in search of a better life.

"I want to improve myself," he said, adding that he wants to study either linguistics or computer science.

Correa attends 12th grade at a private school in Coamo, but believes government officials could greatly improve the education that public school students receive.

"I'd like for everyone to unite, for the governor to know that we're not going to quit," he said. "We will keep fighting."

Protester voices: What Puerto Rico demonstrators are saying

By **DÁNICA COTO**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
A demonstrators wearing a mask with the colors of the Puerto Rico flag, joins a march on Las Americas highway demanding the resignation of governor Ricardo Rosselló, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Monday, July 22, 2019. Protesters are demanding Rosselló step down for his involvement in a private chat in which he used profanities to describe an ex-New York City councilwoman and a federal control board overseeing the island's finance.



Good Housekeeping

ON GARDENING:

Native Clethra, how sweet it is



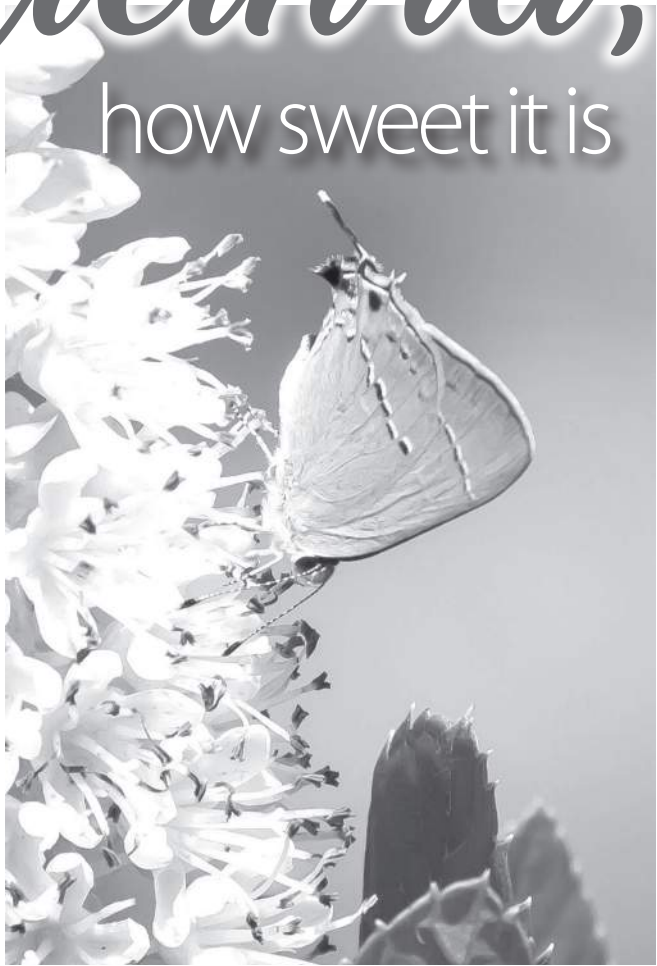
TNS

Summersweet, or Clethra, is wonderfully fragrant and attract butterflies, such as this Eastern Tiger Swallowtail.



TNS

Summersweet, or Clethra, is native from Nova Scotia to East Texas and attracts an assortment of butterflies, such as this Gray Hairstreak.



TNS

Summersweet, or Clethra, bring in pollinators, such as this American Lady, and then feed birds in the fall with remaining seed capsules or fruit.

By Norman Winter
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The Garden Guy has known of the summersweet or Clethra alnifolia for over 20 years; when the variety Hummingbird was selected as a Georgia Gold Medal Winner in 1996. If I may pose the question, however, do you, 'really' know it? Embarrassingly I have to admit, I didn't.

I am here to tell you it is a champion of pollinators. I have been watching for weeks and witnessing a spectacle of nature. There are more bee and wasp species than I knew

existed buzzing around in a state of pure ecstasy.

You will notice, that is not all, hummingbirds will feast as will the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, American Lady, Gray Hairstreak, Red-banded Hairstreak, Silver-spotted Skipper, and more. The native clethra or summersweet is an entomological treasure chest.

The bottlebrush-like spikes are an exotic beauty as well. It looks as though it was created to be partnered with Virginia sweetspire, but forms an idyllic combination with purple-leafed plants like Purple Pixie or Purple Daydream loropeta-

lum. You'll also love it with white blooming hydrangeas.

The blooms of the summersweet yield a fragrance as luring as the finest of perfumes. Growing a bold drift or sweep of these shrubs around the porch patio or deck will give the family, and all who visit, an olfactory experience in which memories will be created. Can you imagine a native plant offering so much in June and July?

The pure native would make a fine choice for your landscape, but there are reasons others have been made for the market place. Hummingbird

was selected for its uniformity and compactness. It reaches 3 feet tall and 4 feet wide. It does sucker some but is easy to manage in allotted space. Sixteen Candles is also compact and holds blooms erect.

Ruby Spice is taller reaching 3 to 6 feet tall producing rose-pink blooms. It is known to sucker but is densely branched and makes a nice hedge. Vanilla Spice is large in habit and bloom. The plants will reach 6 feet tall and as wide with blooms reportedly twice as large as other selections.

Summersweets are tolerant of wet soil and resist browsing by deer. They offer good yellow fall leaf color before dropping leaves and the remaining seed capsules or fruit are eaten by a variety of birds. This gorgeous clump-forming native shrub is disease and insect resistant.

As mentioned, it can spread or form additional clumps by spreading underground stems. It is not hard to keep in bounds or maintained. Pruning will help you develop the desired bushy or mounding shrub look versus a thicket or briar appearance. They bloom on new wood so losing blooms to late frost is typically not an issue.

The ideal location would be in a naturalistic area where they receive morning sun and afternoon shade or high shift-



TNS

Summersweet variety Hummingbird looks good massed and reaches about 3 feet tall.

The Garden Bug

Mid-summer garden checklist

- Provide a water source for birds, and keep its container clean.
- Remove infected leaves from plants and do not compost them. Bag them for pick-up or burn them (safely).
- Continue fungicidal sprays as needed.
- Fertilize container plants every two weeks with a water-soluble solution.
- Keep deadheading spent annual flowers for continued blooming. - B. Weaver

Source: www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

ing filtered light. The clethra is a light feeder, the best time to fertilize is late winter with a slow-release balanced fertilizer spread evenly under mature plants.

Despite its native stature and compatibility over a large geographic area, plus all of the named selections, simply walking into your favorite

garden center and picking up five may be a challenge. To be honest container-grown, nursery-stock can be planted just about any time, so take advantage and buy them when you see them for sale. Once you start growing the clethra or summersweet, you'll never want to be without some in the landscape.

Life & Style

Double take: Celebrities take mistaken identity in stride

NEW YORK (AP)—“Hey, aren’t you ...” Well, no. As famous as they are, celebrities sometimes get misidentified as another A-list face, but many told The Associated Press that they take it in stride.

“I get (mistaken for) everyone, anyone who has red hair,” laughed “Mad Men” star Christina Hendricks, who has been confused with Oscar nominee Jessica Chastain. The culprits include a department store worker who wrongly identified her as the “Zero Dark Thirty” actress.

“Chastain’s epic,” Hendricks said.

For Chastain, the redhead double take usually involves Bryce Dallas Howard: “I remember one time being on the subway and I was looking at a magazine and there was a picture of her in it, like a small picture, and I was like ‘What am I doing in this magazine?’ I actually had that thought,” Chastain recalled.

Even Howard’s dad—director Ron Howard—was once fooled, Chastain said. “I was walking by and I was like ‘Oh, that’s Ron Howard.’ And then my friend



This combination photo shows actress Jessica Chastain at an exclusive fan event for “X-MEN: Dark Phoenix” in London on May 22, 2019, left, and actress Christina Hendricks at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Feb. 24, 2019.



who was with me said he turned to someone and goes ‘I think I just saw Bryce.’”

When the 2011 film “The Help” came along and the two actresses got to work together, they ran to a mirror. “We looked at each other, at our faces, and we were like ‘Yeah we look exactly alike,’” Chastain said.

It’s not just about the redheads.

Sienna Miller is often mistaken for a certain fellow blonde: “Me and Naomi Watts are

friends, but we often get sent each other’s headshots to sign, which I’ll take happily.”

As for Watts, she gets mixed up with friend and fellow Australian Nicole Kidman, but she doesn’t really see it. “We sometimes look at each other and go, ‘It’s not the nose, is it the lips? No it’s not that. Is it the eyes?’ I don’t know what it is.”

And it’s not just women.

Jake Gyllenhaal, thinks it’s just good hair in general. “I think as actors we like to think that we’re special, but



This combination photo shows actor Samuel L. Jackson at the premiere of “Captain Marvel” in London on Feb. 27, 2019, left, and Laurence Fishburne arrives at the premiere of “Avengers: Endgame” in Los Angeles on April 22, 2019. Jackson is often confused with Fishburne.



most of the time people really can’t differentiate any of us. We’re all sort of the same, with no real special skill besides the fact that you know our hair looks nice ’cause somebody else did it.”

If you mistake Samuel L. Jackson for another actor, don’t expect him to correct you. “I just sign what they want me to sign for whoever they think I am,” he said. There’s one actor he’s consistently confused with: Lau-

rence Fishburne.

Gabrielle Union said she gets mistaken for “every black person you’ve ever met in life, famous or not.” Among her supposed lookalikes are singers Brandy and Ashanti and actresses Sanaa Lathan, Regina Hall and Halle Berry. Union blames the identity mix-ups on laziness.

“Last night I was walking out of a restaurant and the paparazzi was, he might have been the laziest paparazzi I’ve

ever encountered. He was like ‘Are you a singer?’ I was like, ‘Yes, I’m Ashanti.’”

Pakistani-American comedian Kumail Nanjiani cites Kunal Nayyar, Aziz Ansari and Hasan Minhaj as his celebrity lookalikes, and it works both ways. “It happens to them with me,” he said. “And so, I feel at least we all have this weird thing in common in that we get mistaken for each other, even though we don’t really look alike.”

In a more unusual identity goof, Mindy Kaling said she’s been mistaken for Nobel Prize-winning activist Malala Yousafzai: “I was once mistaken at a New Yorker party for Malala. And I said, ‘I’ll take it. She’s 19. That’s fine.’”

When it comes to some British male celebs, “Dark Phoenix” stars Michael Fassbender and James McAvoy said they’ve both been mistaken for Ewan McGregor, while Michael Sheen has been mistaken for a host of other celebrities. The latest is his “Good Omens” co-star David Tennant. “Someone thought that David was playing both parts as well.”

Weight loss among fat-acceptance influencers a fraught topic

NEW YORK (AP)—Fashion and lifestyle blogger Maui Bigelow has always been curvy and built a social media presence by embracing every pound.

Until the worst happened. At nearly 380 pounds, her health took a dive. She was diagnosed with a blood cancer and multiple uterine fibroids that couldn’t be treated due to her weight. That’s when she decided to have bariatric surgery, a weight loss procedure.

She hadn’t yearned to be thinner, but she wanted to live at least long enough for her two children, ages 20 and 16, to make her a grandmother.

“For months I talked to my counselor about how I would share my truth with you,” Bigelow told her followers at Phatgirlfresh.com after the weight loss surgery last year. “I was concerned about how you would receive it. I feared the plus-size and body positive communities wouldn’t understand or respect my choice.”

Bigelow, a former teacher in Albany, Georgia, with 67,500 monthly unique visitors to her site and nearly 40,000 followers on Instagram, was pleased her fans

were resoundingly positive. That’s not a small thing in her corner of the internet.

Fat-acceptance and body positive influencers like Bigelow are on the rise on social media and as fashion models as they fight back against the damaging pressures of idealized beauty peddled online and off. But what happens when, as in Bigelow’s case, weight poses a serious health risk, or they decide to shed pounds for other reasons, turning their careers and social channels from fat acceptance to smaller sizes, dieting and fitness?

“The people who are having weight loss surgery in our community, they have the surgery, they go about their business and they shut up, for the most part. But it’s important to share. There are women who are struggling with health issues who need this surgery,” Bigelow said in an interview.

She’s down to 240 pounds, but she’s struggling to fully accept her future of fewer pounds, both personally and professionally.

“I was a bomb ass girl at almost 400 pounds,” Bigelow said. “Some of these influencers, they talk about being fat and how they love their



This undated image released by Howell Designs Studio, LLC shows fashion and lifestyle blogger Maui Bigelow.

plus-size bodies and how they’re so empowered in the space that they’re in, and they have all of these women who support them, who are cheering them on. Then fast forward, they lose the weight and you see the before and after pictures: Oh, this is when I was 350 pounds. I was so depressed. I felt so ugly. And this is me now. I’m so happy. I’m

so free. Wait a minute, girl. Didn’t you say two years ago when you were 350 pounds that you loved your body and that you loved the size that you were? Me, I came into womanhood as a fat woman. I’m not as confident as I was.”

Pia Schiavo-Campo, who posts from Los Angeles about style and culture on Instagram and blogs at Mixed-

fatchick.com, isn’t a fan of dieting, before-and-after pictures or the lack of dialogue from fat-acceptance influencers about weight loss. As someone who has struggled with an eating disorder for the better part of 30 years, she’s triggered by diet talk and conflicted about weight turnarounds, especially those not directly addressed.

It’s the messaging, she said in an interview, especially when dieting or weight loss surgery transforms the online mission through photos and new collaborations focused on health and weight-loss products.

Schiavo-Campo’s concerns are echoed by others in the anti-diet movement.

“Diet culture,” she says, has been “basically imposed on us, mostly women. By the same token, I also believe that people should do what’s best for their bodies.”

JennyLee Molina in Miami did what’s best for her body by losing 80 pounds in a year, trimming down to a size 8 after being told she was pre-diabetic. She did it without surgery, and lost one of her heroes, body-positive model Tess Holliday, in the process, after documenting her health and weight-loss journey on Instagram, where she has 11,900 followers.

Molina’s feed includes before-and-after photos. She said she sought out Holliday through private messaging after realizing Holliday had unfollowed her.

“Your weight loss posts are too triggering for me, I’m sure you understand,” Holliday explained in a private reply earlier this year. “It’s not personal.”

Pitt, DiCaprio and Robbie reconcile a changing Hollywood

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Once upon a time, not too far from Hollywood, two of the world's biggest movie stars were talking about what it's like to screw up on set.

"Messing up the lines in front of the entire cast and crew?" Leonardo DiCaprio said. "It's the going to school in your underwear nightmare."

"It's awful," Brad Pitt chimed in. "When a scene's not working. When YOU'RE not working in a scene...It goes beyond not being able to get the lines. You have 100 people there who are all ready to get on with their day and get home."

DiCaprio hasn't exactly had to resort to dunking his head in ice water after a too-late and too-fun night out, as his actor character does in "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood."

But Pitt? "Oh I've done that," he laughed.

The two actors, who skyrocketed to fame around the same time more than a quarter century ago, have joined forces for the first time in a major motion picture to take on their own industry, their own town and even their own egos in a time of great change—1969 Hollywood. Out nationwide Friday, it's also reunited them with Quentin Tarantino.

Once known only as "Tarantino's Manson Movie," the actual film is something very different. Manson is a character, as are his most notorious followers. And of course, Sharon Tate is depicted too and played by Margot Robbie. But as with most Tarantino movies, it's not exactly what you think.

"The best of what 1969 had to offer you kind of experience through Sharon," Robbie said.

Like going to the Playboy Mansion with Mama Cass and go-go dancing the night away. Or rolling up to a movie theater to check out your latest matinee and getting a free ticket because you're on the poster.

"She kind of represented the arms open, doors open sort of policy," she added. "Af-



In this July 11, 2019 file photo, from left, Brad Pitt, Leonardo DiCaprio, Quentin Tarantino, and Margot Robbie attend the photo call for "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood" at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles. AP

ter 1969 and after her death, things kind of changed in Hollywood and people closed their doors and shut the gates."

The light and the dark of the '60s is the backdrop to what is otherwise a classic star-driven two-hander. "Once Upon a Time..." is awash in nostalgia, showbiz lore (and cameos), wistfulness and Tarantino-wit that allows DiCaprio, as a past his prime television cowboy in a moment of crippling self-doubt, and Pitt, as his devoted stuntman, to do what they do best: Charm.

"I don't think you can completely act that kind of dynamic," Pitt said. The change happening in Hollywood around 1969 led to many on-set discussions of what was going on at the time with the new batch of filmmakers upending the establishment and leaving room for the Coppolas and the Scorseses to break in.

"The 'take and wait,'" Pitt said. "Like, we'll get the take but we're getting through this story." Tarantino does that often. It also made them all reflect on their own industry at the mo-

ment, where streaming is disrupting the old ways but once again ushering in new voices. As producers, Pitt, DiCaprio and Robbie all find it exciting.

"What's incredible is this wealth of talent from writers to directors to actors that are getting opportunities now. It's quite extraordinary," Pitt said. "You see that we're not so special."

DiCaprio is even a little jealous to see some "out of the box ideas" and "really ballsy storytelling" that he tried and failed to get made just a decade ago now not only being financed, but made at a high quality too.

"There's so many more opportunities," Robbie added. "I'm very grateful to be playing roles in this day and age than perhaps when Sharon was."

But it's not lost on them that they all happen to be promoting a "a big budget art piece like this," as DiCaprio called it, from one of the major studios whose future is going to depend on people actually going to see films like "Once Upon a Time..." in a movie theater.

"Hopefully it becomes like a concert experience," DiCaprio said. "People want

to get together on the Friday night and feel the energy of the crowd and the excitement of a movie coming out that they've been anticipating rather than the isolation of being home. Hopefully that's not lost in the sauce, because that's half the fun of it, right?"

"Once Upon a Time..." is Tarantino's ninth film, and, according to him, his second to last. Pitt and DiCaprio believe him too.

"I always imagined it as his little box set that he wants to just hang up on the wall and that's it," DiCaprio said. "That completes the Tarantino, you know, cinematic experience."

"The Tarantino 10," Pitt added.

As with many button-pushing Tarantino projects, "Once Upon a Time..." has been at the center of a few heated public discussions, including the morality of making a movie about Tate and Manson, and the casting of Emile Hirsch, who in 2015 pleaded guilty to assaulting a female studio executive at Sundance.

Then there was that tense moment at the Cannes Film

Festival press conference where a reporter asked why Robbie's character has so few lines and Tarantino curtly responded that he rejected the hypothesis.

Tarantino declined to be interviewed for this article. But his response touched a nerve culturally.

"He's an incredibly unique filmmaker," DiCaprio said. "And whatever choices he makes, he's one of those rare filmmakers in this industry that has retained the right to say, 'This is a piece of art that I'm going to give to the world. And this is what this character represents, and this is what this character represents. And it's my piece of work.'... That's why we consistently want to work with somebody like that."

It's clear his actors are in awe of him and what he brings to their art form. It's the kind of admiration that can result in two true movie stars talking like fans.

"You know he's got a four-hour cut of this?" Pitt said excitedly.

"Yeah," DiCaprio responded. "I'm still waiting to see the four-hour cut of 'Django.'"

Lil Nas X ties Billboard record set by Mariah, 'Despacito'

NEW YORK (AP)—Lil Nas X has taken his horse to the old town road and ridden it to the top of the Billboard charts for 16 weeks, tying a record set by Mariah Carey and Luis Fonsi.

"Old Town Road" logs its 16th week at No. 1 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart this week, matching the success that Carey and Boyz II Men's "One Sweet Day" achieved in 1995-1996. Fonsi, Daddy Yankee and Justin Bieber's "Despacito" accomplished the feat in 2017.

No song has spent more than 16 weeks at No. 1 on the all-genre Hot 100 chart in the 61-year history of the Billboard charts.

The country-rap "Old Town Road" was originally a solo song, but 20-year-old Lil Nas X added Billy Ray Cyrus to the track and it topped the charts, achieving most of its success through audio streaming.

Lil Nas X is looking forward to setting a new Billboard record next week. He posted a video Monday on social media of the "SpongeBob SquarePants" character Squidward Tentacles saying, "Please stream 'Old Town Road.'"

"Me on the internet this whole week tryna break the billboard record," he wrote in the caption.

"Old Town Road" initially was in a bit of controversy in March when Billboard removed it from its country charts, deeming it not country enough (it peaked at No. 19 on the country charts). But the drama didn't hurt the song; it only propelled it.

"This song has been a uniter not a divider," Cyrus said in a statement Monday. "I'm giving God the glory now for allowing me the gift to be part of such a special song. It's a unique moment in time where people from all over the world and all walks of life find they have more in common than they do different. It's a moment we've all shared and I'm grateful for it."

"Old Town Road" appears on Lil Nas X's debut EP "7," which peaked at No. 2 on Billboard's 200 albums chart earlier this month. The EP also features the Top 40 hits "Panini" and "Rodeo" with Cardi B.

"Old Town Road" is also spending its 16th week on top of both the R&B/Hip-Hop and rap songs charts.

Marvel's next films will bring diversity, onscreen and off

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Marvel's push for more women and people of color in its immensely popular film franchise is extending to behind the camera as it launches its next round of films after the massive success of "Avengers: Endgame." Of the five films the superhero studio announced at Comic-Con on Saturday, only one is set to be directed by a white man.

"It's about fresh voices and new voices and great filmmakers who can continue to steer the (Marvel Cinematic Universe) into new places," Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige said in an interview after the studio's explosive Hall H

panel. "And I am as proud of that lineup of directors as you saw today as any."

In addition to a slew of women and people of color at the helm of the upcoming Marvel films, the weekend's announcements promised more diversity on screen.

First up for release is the long-awaited solo film starring Scarlett Johansson as the Black Widow, the lethal assassin she has played for nearly a decade. The film is set for release in May 2020.

Johansson said the search for "Black Widow" director Kate Shortland wasn't easy.

"It's really interesting be-

cause when we were looking for a director, you start to see some of the systemic problems," Johansson said. "Even looking for a female director who has had enough experience—who has had the opportunity to have the experience to sit at the helm of something huge like this, you know, choices are limited because of that. And it sucks."

The actress added that she was proud to see the diversity on stage during Marvel's Hall H panel.

"Looking out on that stage tonight, it was incredible. It was really moving, also just to see how incredibly diverse the universe is—and reflects

what we see all around us. It's incredible," she said.

In terms of more diversity, "Black Widow" is just the beginning.

"The Eternals" will feature a cast full of actors of color, including Kumail Nanjiani, Brian Tyree Henry, and Salma Hayek. Simu Liu will become Marvel's first big screen Asian American superhero when "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" is released in February 2021. Natalie Portman will play a female Thor in the new "Thor: Love and Thunder," which will also feature Tessa Thompson's character, Valkyrie, as the MCU's first LGBTQ superhero.

"First of all, as new King (of Asgard), she needs to find her queen, so that will be her first order of business. She has some ideas. Keep you posted," Thompson said during the panel. Feige later confirmed the news in an interview with the website io9.

The studio is also reviving one of Marvel's most iconic black characters, Blade (previously played by Wesley Snipes), with the help of Academy Award winner Mahershala Ali. Feige told The Associated Press that right after winning his second Academy Award for "Green Book" earlier this year, Ali set up a meeting.

Pioneering Native American author honored with peace prize

CINCINNATI (AP)—A Native American author whose writings have highlighted his indigenous culture is this year's winner of a lifetime achievement award celebrating literature's power to foster peace, social justice and global understanding.

Dayton Literary Peace Prize officials selected novelist, poet and essayist N. Scott Momaday for the Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award. It's named for the late U.S. diplomat who brokered the 1995 Bosnia peace accords reached in Ohio.

A Kiowa Indian, Momaday earned the 1969 Pulitzer Prize for fiction with "House Made

of Dawn," about a young man returning to his Kiowa pueblo after serving in the U.S. Army. His 1968 book has been credited with leading a renaissance in Native American literature.

Born in 1934, Momaday grew up on reservations in the southwestern United States, where his parents were teachers.

He drew from Kiowa history and folk lore for "The Way to Rainy Mountain" in 1969 and wrote about the influence of ancestors and traditions in his early life in "The Names: A Memoir" in 1976.

Sharon Rab, founder and chairwoman of the peace prize foundation, said Momaday's

work shows the "power of ritual, imagination, and storytelling" to produce peace through intercultural understanding and that it honors and safeguards "the storytelling traditions of our nation's indigenous communities."

Momaday said in a statement that peace is the objective of human evolution, and literature is the measure.

"The history of human experience is in many ways a history of dysfunction and conflict, and literature, because it is an accurate record of that history, reflects not only what is peaceful, but what is the universal hope and struggle for peace," he said. "Literature and peace are at

last indivisible. They form an equation that is the definition of art and humanity."

The award carries a \$10,000 prize. Previous winners include Studs Terkel, Taylor Branch, John Irving, Gloria Steinem, and Elie Wiesel.

This year's awards gala will be Nov. 3, when Momaday will be joined by the 2019 winners of awards for fiction and nonfiction who will be announced Sept. 17.



AP
In this Monday, Jan. 8, 2007 photo, Pulitzer Prize-winning writer N. Scott Momaday recites a poem at the inauguration of Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Indictment handed up in 'Real Housewives' home invasion

FREEHOLD, N.J. (AP)—A man has been indicted in the home invasion of a former "Real Housewives of New Jersey" cast member. James Mainello also faces robbery, aggravated assault and other charges in the indictment handed up Monday by a Monmouth County grand jury. Prosecutors say the 51-year-old Bayonne resident and another man were waiting when Dina Manzo and her then-fiancé David Cantin entered their Holmdel home in May 2017. Cantin was beaten with a baseball bat, and Manzo was repeatedly kicked. They were bound with zip ties before the intruders made off with Manzo's engagement ring and cash. Prosecutors say DNA on a zip tie matched Mainello's. Mainello's lawyer says he denies the charges. Manzo and Cantin have since married.

MSNBC contributor apologizes, deletes tweet about Fox

NEW YORK (AP)—An MSNBC contributor apologized and deleted a tweet that appeared to confuse read-

ers about Fox News Channel's plans to cover special prosecutor Robert Mueller's testimony before Congress this week. Joyce Vance, a former federal prosecutor, said Sunday on Twitter that Fox isn't airing Mueller's testimony because President Donald Trump is afraid of what will happen to his supporters if they heard Mueller. But Fox is airing the testimony Wednesday, along with ABC, CBS, NBC and the cable news networks. Vance tweeted later Sunday that while she meant it ironically, "my apologies to anyone I confused." MSNBC had no comment Monday. Fox noted it had been running promos of its Mueller coverage since Friday. Vance's original message had been retweeted nearly 10,000 times.

Shannen Doherty to appear on 'Riverdale' Luke Perry tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—Shannen Doherty will guest star in the season four premiere of "Riverdale," which is set to honor Luke Perry. The show's executive producer, Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, made the announcement Sunday at Comic-Con in San Diego. Perry played Doherty's love

interest on "Beverly Hills, 90210." On "Riverdale," he played Fred Andrews, the father of lead character Archie Andrews. Doherty's casting on "Riverdale," said Aguirre-Sacasa, is something Perry was rooting for since season one. Her role is described as "pivotal" and "super-emotional." The episode will air Oct. 9 on The CW. Perry died in March after suffering a massive stroke at age 52.

Swedish investigation ends of man in fight with A\$AP Rocky

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Swedish prosecutors have dropped their investigation of a man they say was involved in a fight with American rapper A\$AP Rocky. Magnus Stromberg represents the alleged victim and said Monday they are happy but not surprised by the decision. Rocky, a platinum-selling, Grammy-nominated artist whose real name is Rakim Mayers, has been behind bars since early this month as police investigate the fight in Stockholm. It was not clear who else was involved, but videos published on social media appear to show a person being violently thrown onto the ground by Rocky.

Prosecutors have until Thursday to make a decision on the investigation. Rocky's lawyer says they will not comment until Thursday, but his lawyer has said the rapper was acting in self defense. The case has drawn attention of celebrities including Sean "Diddy" Combs, Nicki Minaj, Kim Kardashian West and Kanye West. President Donald Trump spoke with Sweden's prime minister Saturday about the detained rapper.

Manchester concert bombing suspect kept in custody

LONDON (AP)—The younger brother of the suicide bomber who killed 22 people at an Ariana Grande concert in Manchester has been kept in custody at a bail hearing. Hashem Abedi appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Monday via video-link from Belmarsh Prison in southeast London. Judge Nigel Sweeney ordered the 22-year-old to be placed in custody before a preliminary court hearing at the Old Bailey in London or in Oxford on July 30. Abedi travelled to Libya before his older brother detonated his suicide vest on May 22, 2017. He is suspected of helping

plan the attack. He faces almost two dozen counts of murder for the attack's victims, one count of attempted murder for those injured and one count of conspiring with his brother to cause explosions.

Woodstock 50 again denied permit with festival weeks away

VERNON, N.Y. (AP)—Woodstock 50 organizers have again been denied a permit to hold a three-day festival at an upstate New York horse track. Town of Vernon officials say Monday the permit application for a festival Aug. 16-18 at the Vernon Downs racetrack and casino was filed too late and was rife with problems. Vernon became a possible alternative site for Woodstock 50 after the original venue, Watkins Glen International, pulled out. But local officials have repeatedly denied permit applications amid concerns about planning for up to 65,000 people coming to this largely rural area on short notice. A spokeswoman for Woodstock 50 said they had no comment. The festival has faced a series of setbacks, including the losses of a financial partner and a production company.

Recent revelation of affair threatens to break up family

DEAR ABBY: I just found out that my boyfriend of 12 years slept with my stepmother last year. She doesn't know I know, and now that I do, I struggle with it. Should I tell my dad what I found out, confront her or let sleeping dogs lie? I am deeply hurt. I feel like my heart has been torn out. How can I forgive and forget this?

WOUNDED IN UTAH

DEAR WOUNDED: How did you happen upon this news? Did your boyfriend tell you? Unless you are absolutely certain it's true, do nothing. If you ARE certain, get rid of this poor excuse for a "boyfriend." And tell your father and stepmother what you know and how hurt you are.

DEAR ABBY: You always tell us to consider whether we would be better off with or without somebody. What if it's your sister? My sister and I are of retirement age and had a falling out. I felt she had become too needy, and she was very hurt when I told her so. She is awaiting my apology, which has been the pattern of our lives. Although we live 30 miles apart, I have no desire to contact her.

Because I was usually the one she went to for advice and companionship, I feel guilty for "abandoning" her and often wonder if she's OK. We are both healthy and self-sufficient. I love her because she's my sister, but I can truly say my life is

easier and less complicated without her. The thought of contacting her is too much to bear. On the other hand, she's my sister.

BETTER OFF IN COLORADO

DEAR BETTER OFF: You say your life is better off and less complicated without your needy sibling, and that you have no desire to contact her. OK. So what exactly is your question? Are you waiting for me to "order" you to call her and apologize? The price for that will be shouldering again the burden of her neediness. If you're worried about how she's doing, ask someone who is in touch with her. But hold a good thought. If you have heard nothing, she's probably fine. Bad news has a way of traveling fast.

DEAR ABBY: When we got married, I thought even though he told "everyone" he did it because he had to, that he truly did love me. But as the years have passed, I have realized that maybe he was telling the truth and he did marry me for that reason rather than for love. I feel unloved most of the time. Lately, I have been thinking maybe it's time to just move on. What's your advice?

FEELING TORN

DEAR FEELING TORN: Rather than dwell on something your husband said in the past, raise the subject again.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



And when you do, tell him you are doing it because you feel unloved most of the time. If he tells you he meant it then and still feels that way, my advice is to ask yourself if this is the kind of marriage you want for the rest of your life. Some women are so afraid of the unknown that they would stay in this kind of marriage, regardless of the pain. Because I assume you have a child, you and your husband need to figure out if you can improve your relationship. If not, then it may be time to move on.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

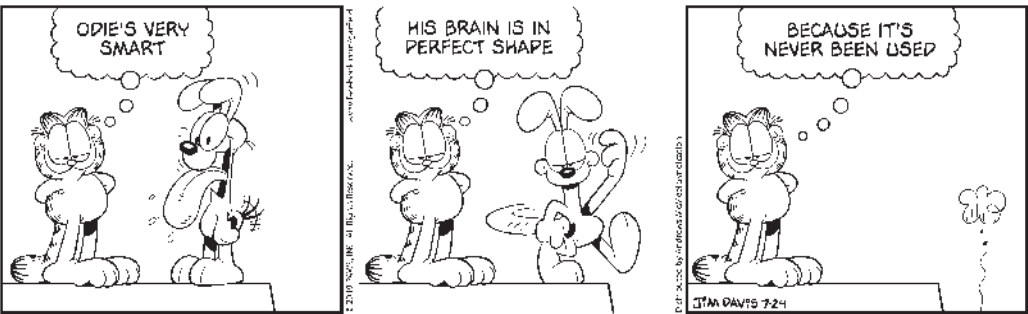
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



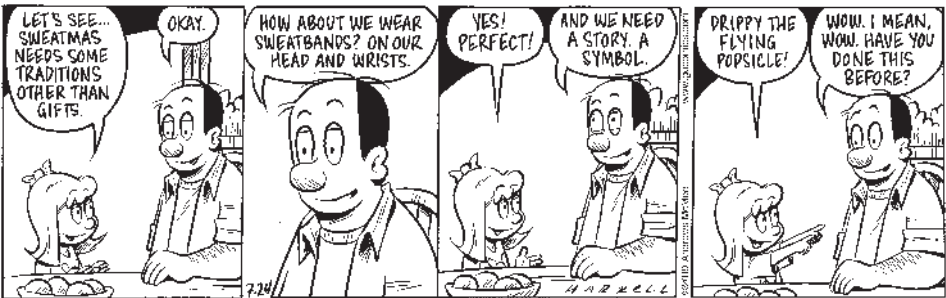
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



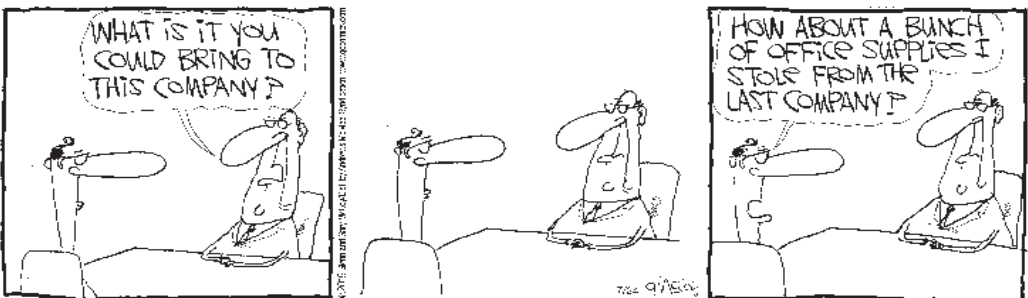
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Nile reptile

4 Tree home

8 Rams fans?

12 Mauna —

13 Notion

14 Calendar span

15 Yale grad

16 Misleading recommendations

18 Pink hue

20 Sushi choice

21 Arizona city

24 Man of morals?

28 Massachusetts

32 Melody

33 Flamenco cheer

34 Handled

36 Kingston Trio hit

37 Peregrinate

39 Pub perch

41 Allen or Frome

DOWN

43 Seized vehicle

44 Soak (up)

46 Mars explorer

50 Barnes & Noble, for one

55 Actress Mendes

56 Diarist Frank

57 "Hey, sailor!"

58 Pester

59 Incite

60 Scatters seeds

61 "CSI" evidence

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Elisabeth Moss, 37; Anna Paquin, 37; Jennifer Lopez, 50; Kristin Chenoweth, 51.

Happy Birthday: Revisit the past. Consider what you have done with your life and how best to differentiate what's worked for you and what hasn't. It's time to follow your heart and to use your skills, knowledge and experience to encourage you to do the things that bring you the most joy. Personal gain isn't always about money. Self-improvement is encouraged. Your numbers are 9, 14, 23, 27, 32, 39, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Sign up and do your best. A challenge will make you feel good about who you are and what you are capable of doing. Having a renewed faith will encourage you to put a stop to anyone taking advantage of you. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Communication will help you get a better view of the possibilities that exist. Listen to someone with more experience, but when it comes to making a decision, rely on what you feel works best for you. Nurture important relationships. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep an open mind, but don't buy into someone else's dream. If you want to partner with someone, do so for the right reason, and be sure to get something out of it. Balance and equality are necessary. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Partnerships should be looked at carefully. Don't feel you have to make a snap decision. If someone pressures you, back away. Keeping busy

will help you avoid anxiety and stress. Memories will reinforce what life is all about. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Express interest and optimism when dealing with people in order to get a better response. Instead of correcting or critiquing, put your time and energy into doing the best job possible and taking care of your responsibilities first and foremost. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Finish what you start. If you criticize what someone else is doing when you haven't taken care of your responsibilities, you will be faced with an emotional situation that will hurt a relationship that is important to you. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll regret making a fuss. Consider what you can do to keep the peace and accomplish what you set out to do. Focus your energy on doing something physical that will show results quickly. Listen more and talk less. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't jump just because someone asks you to do something. Look at all your options and go directly to the source of anything you are contemplating getting involved in, and you will discover consequences that will help redirect your time and energy. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't count on anyone else to take care of your business or responsibilities. Choose to use your energy to benefit you emotionally, physically and spiritually. Self-improvement will bring higher returns than helping someone for nothing. Socialize with those who share personal goals. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got everything going for you, so don't start an argument over something inconsequential. Emotions will be unstable, and energy should be channeled positively. Romance should be on your agenda. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An emotional move will be a mistake. Stick to your plan, and don't make adjustments because someone is trying to back you into a corner. Concentrate on your health and personal achievements, not someone who is acting erratically or being difficult. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You can dream, but don't go overboard. If you want to do something, set boundaries that will ensure you don't go into debt trying to do the impossible. Focus on personal grooming, romance and being with people who ground you. ****

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, enthusiastic and dramatic. You are helpful and protective.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

				3	9	4	1			
2	4		7				6			
6		4			3					
	1			6						
3				1						
5			2	8		1				
2		6			7		8	9		
9	1					7	2			
7					6					

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/24

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

6	5	7	8	4	1	2	9	3
3	4	2	6	5	9	8	1	7
1	8	9	7	2	3	5	6	4
2	9	3	1	8	7	4	5	6
4	1	6	3	9	5	7	8	2
5	7	8	4	6	2	9	3	1
8	3	5	2	1	4	6	7	9
7	6	4	9	3	8	1	2	5
9	2	1	5	7	6	3	4	8

7/24

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

MARSEILLES, FRANCE

Solution: 9 letters

BOULEVARD FCOAST
UY YGPV HISTORYES
TOAAREPOISTUNCE
NETWRITERSEAROG
AERSL W MEEEEUUNR
TOURI I XCNIGRDA
ISTEOPA N ASNOMEL
LA IOLIER E ISRUOC
OSTPXVRSDEESINA
PEROOEH AISLANDS
O HORTIR FRENCHCR
RCPIPTRAREIVIRE
TADSIRAPUSITSAP
EELES ILOOTYSTRA
MBOUILLABAISSEC

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7/24

Aloli, Aix, Aniseed, Artsy, Beaches, Bouillabaisse, Boulevard, Bourride, Capers, City, Coast, Cote, Cours, Cruise Ships, Four, French, GRIM, History, Islands, Largest, Lemon, Lesilo, Lyon, Mediterranean, Metropolitan, Old Port, Opera, Paris, Pastis, Pate, Piers, Pistou, Poets, Provence, Railway, Riviera, Rose, Second, Terroir, Tour, Trading, Wine, Writers

Yesterday's Answer: Grandparents

Treasures 13 through 18 and 20 through 34 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

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Duncan returning to Spurs as assistant coach



TEXAS—Tim Duncan is back with the San Antonio Spurs, this time as an assistant coach under Gregg Popovich.

Duncan, the Spurs' all-time leader in points, rebounds and blocked shots — and the only player to be on all five of San Antonio's NBA championship teams — officially returned to the franchise Monday. The Spurs, per their usual style, made the announcement in a very understated way, not even putting Duncan's name in the headline of the news release.

"It is only fitting, that after I served loyally for 19 years as Tim Duncan's assistant, that he returns the favor," Popovich said in the release.

Duncan didn't even get top billing in the announcement. That went to Will Hardy, who will be taking on an expanded role as one of the Spurs' assistant coaches. Hardy has been with the Spurs since 2010, working his way up from the video room at first.

"Will Hardy is a talented, young basketball mind who has earned a great deal of respect from everyone in the organization thanks to his knowledge, spirit and personality," Popovich said.

The entirety of the Spurs' description of Duncan in the release was this: "Duncan, a 1997 Wake Forest graduate, played 19 seasons with the Spurs before retiring in the summer of 2016." No mention of his rings, his 15 All-Star nods, his three NBA Finals MVP awards, his two NBA MVP awards or anything else.

Duncan retired from playing three years ago, but has worked at times with San Antonio's post players. He has long been one of Popovich's favorites, even going back to



In this Dec. 2, 2015, file photo, San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich, left, talks with forward Tim Duncan (21) during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Milwaukee Bucks in San Antonio. Duncan is back with the Spurs, this time as an assistant coach.

1997 in the days leading up to San Antonio taking Duncan with the No. 1 overall pick in that year's draft.

Popovich went to the Virgin Islands before that draft to get to know Duncan, and was immediately sold.

"We lived on the beach for a few days and we swam and we talked," Popovich said at Duncan's retirement ceremony. "From that moment I knew he was a special individual because he basically talked about everything but basketball. And we've been the recipients of that intelligence and that out-

look on life since he's walked in here."

Duncan's hiring and Hardy's expanded role will help the Spurs replace former assistants Ettore Messina and Ime Udoka, who left earlier this offseason for new jobs. Becky Hammon and Chip Engelland are also returning as Spurs assistants.

Wizards name Tommy Sheppard GM

In Washington, Wizards general manager Tommy Sheppard is losing his interim tag as part of an organizational re-

structuring that includes hires from outside the NBA.

Changes announced Monday are part of the new leadership team for Monumental Basketball, a fledgling collective composed of the Wizards, Washington Mystics, Capital City Go-Go and Wizards District Gaming. Sheppard, a 25-year veteran of the NBA, had been serving as the Wizards' interim GM after president Ernie Grunfeld was fired late in the regular season, overseeing the team's draft and free agency.

Among the new hires is 43-year-old Sashi Brown, exec-

utive vice president of football operations for the NFL's Cleveland Browns for about two years before being fired in December 2017. Brown, who has a law degree from Harvard and also worked for the Jacksonville Jaguars, will serve as chief planning and operations officer for Monumental Basketball.

Ted Leonsis, chairman and CEO of the new group, announced the changes. Leonsis says the goal is to build a leadership brain trust with deep Wizards and NBA experience and with sports professionals from inside and outside the

NBA in an effort to adapt "to an ever-increasing competitive environment."

"We broke the mold a little bit," he said. "We don't know if it's the final answer."

Daniel Medina will serve as chief of athlete care and performance. Medina spent over a decade with soccer powerhouse FC Barcelona as team physician and later became the team's deputy director of sports science and medical department, involved in evaluating and researching new products designed to aid in athlete health and performance. He comes to the Wizards after serving as vice president of athletic care for the Philadelphia 76ers the past two years.

A new athlete development and engagement department will be led by former Georgetown men's basketball coach John Thompson III, who will work with Sashia Jones, promoted from vice president of community relations to vice president of player engagement. Brett Greenberg, formerly the vice president of basketball analytics/salary cap management who has been with the Wizards for a decade, was promoted to assistant general manager for strategy and analytics. Jones has been with the team for 18 years.

"We have almost 50 athletes and we have to put them in a position to maximize their potential," Thompson said. "We're not four separate entities. This is one organization."

Thompson served as an assistant coach for the U.S. Men's National Team at the 2019 FIBA World Cup and also was a member of the Commission on College Basketball chaired by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice that examined Division I men's basketball and its relationship with the NBA.



NORTHERN ISLAND—Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy will headline a skins game event on Oct. 21 in Japan.

The skins game will also include Jason Day and Hideki Matsuyama in a one-day competition to be held at Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club in Japan, three days before the start of the inaugural Zozo Championship that will be played outside of Tokyo. Woods is expected to compete in that tournament, the first official PGA Tour event in Japan.

The PGA Tour-sanctioned skins game will offer "lucrative prize money," although the amount and the structure of the event are still being finalized.

The Skins Game was once an offseason golf staple, held

Woods, McIlroy set for skins game in Japan

from 1983 to 2008, often around Thanksgiving weekend. The event fizzled from a lack of star power in its final few events.

In a typical skins competition, each hole is assigned a dollar amount, with the prize money rolling over to the next hole if there is no winner.

Woods was a runner-up in the Skins Game in 2001, 2004 and 2005, but he did not play in the competition after that.

Fleetwood rues missed chances

The final result looks like a runaway, and for the final few holes of the 148th Open Championship it was.

Shane Lowry won at Royal Portrush, six shots clear of

runner-up Tommy Fleetwood.

But Sunday could have been a much tighter contest had things been different on the first hole. Playing in the final pairing together, Lowry began the day with a four-stroke advantage. After a few shaky shots to start his round, Lowry had a bogey putt, while Fleetwood had a birdie putt of equal length.

"The first hole, if you look at it, I have 6 or 7 feet for birdie, [he had] 6 or 7 feet for bogey," Fleetwood said. "I hole, he misses, and we've got a one-shot gap, and that's only after one hole."

But Lowry made and Fleetwood missed. The latter picked up only one shot and never got any closer than three strokes.

"You're standing on the first green, Tommy has a great chance of birdie and I'm putting for bogey from 8 feet," Lowry said. "There's a potential three-shot swing. He misses, I make, and there's only one shot. That settled me an awful lot."

As the two battled each other and horrible weather conditions—"just shocking, shocking weather," Fleetwood described—the Englishman was only four back with five to play.

Any chance of a major rally, however, crashed and burned at the par-4 14th. Lowry made bogey and Fleetwood still lost a shot as he made double.

"[No.] 14 was just a bit of a killer blow, really," Fleetwood said.

That dropped him to 9 under par, where he finished the championship after a closing, 3-over 74.

This is the 28-year-old's second career solo-second in a major (2018 U.S. Open) and his best result, by far, this season. He now has nearly 9 full months before his next opportunity at Augusta National.

"It's a long time until the next major," he said. "But I'll reflect. I think I played a lot of very, very good golf this week. I think for me personally it was nice to play more like I feel like how I should play again."

Meanwhile, while Lowry was putting together a fairytale victory lap in front of his countrymen, Brooks

Koepka spent Sunday stewing over the glacially-slow approach of playing partner J.B. Holmes.

Afterward, the impatient Koepka, who finished tied for fourth, couched some of his criticism. He even said that Holmes' round was "relatively quick."

But he also didn't spare any words for players who don't play like they have somewhere to be, a group that included Holmes.

"What I don't understand is when it's your turn to hit, your glove is not on, then you start thinking about it, that's where the problem lies," Koepka told reporters. "It's not that (Holmes) takes that long. He doesn't do anything until his turn. That's the frustrating part. But he's not the only one that does it out here."

Goldschmidt's grand slam lifts Cards past Pirates



PITTSBURGH
(AP)—Paul

Goldschmidt hit his fifth career grand slam in the top of the 10th and right fielder Jose Martinez threw out the tying run at the plate to help the St. Louis Cardinals beat the reeling Pittsburgh Pirates 6-5 on Monday night.

Goldschmidt took an offering from Clay Holmes (1-1) and sent it to the concourse that runs behind the wall in right-center field as the streaking Cardinals improved to 8-3 since the All-Star break. Goldschmidt's 19th home run of the season was just enough after St. Louis closer Carlos Martinez nearly let a four-run cushion get away.

Pittsburgh drew within a run in the bottom of the 10th on an RBI single by Josh Bell and a two-run home run by Jung Ho Kang. The Pirates put the tying run at second base with no outs but couldn't draw even.

Martinez threw out Pittsburgh's Kevin Newman at home on a sharp single to right by Jacob Stallings for the second out. The call stood after the Pirates challenged and Carlos Martinez retired Adam Frazier on a fly ball to right to collect his ninth save.

Matt Wieters hit his eighth home run for the Cardinals—and fourth this month—and added a sacrifice fly. Chasen Shreve (1-0) picked up his victory since last August by escaping a two-on, two-out jam in the ninth.

Starling Marte had three hits for Pittsburgh. Bell, Colin Moran and Bryan Reynolds all drove in runs but the Pirates left 11 runners on base to fall to 2-8 since a 12-5 surge pulled them within 2½ games of first in the NL Central at the break.

Pittsburgh's Trevor Williams looked crisper with a few extra days to prepare for his 14th start thanks to a bout with flu-like symptoms that forced the Pirates to skip his normal turn in the rotation over the weekend. Williams allowed two runs, one earned, in five innings with two walks and tied a season high with seven strikeouts in his most effective outing since returning from a month-long stay on the injured list in May and June due to a strained right side.

St. Louis rookie Daniel Ponce de Leon was roughed up by the Pirates last week, getting tagged for eight hits and four runs in less than four innings of work. The 27-year-old wasn't any sharper in the rematch. He labored through three innings while battling his command, allowing three hits and four walks while needing 86 pitches to record nine outs.

Still, Ponce de Leon managed

to surrender just a single run as Pittsburgh's listless offense—the Pirates came in averaging just 2.7 runs since the break—failed to take advantage.

Twins 8, Yankees 6

In Minneapolis, Mitch Garver hit two of Minnesota's five home runs, and the Twins held on for a victory over the New York Yankees after a tone-setting triple play in the first inning of a series opener between AL division leaders.

Jorge Polanco, Nelson Cruz and Max Kepler also went deep, giving the Twins their eighth game with five or more homers this season. All but Garver's second solo shot came off starter CC Sabathia (5-5), who lasted only four innings.

Martín Pérez was hit just as hard, serving up home runs to Gio Urshela, Luke Voit, and AL batting leader DJ LeMahieu, a two-run drive.

Nine of the last 13 batters against Pérez reached, with 14 total bases, and he left after failing to get an out in the fifth. LeMahieu went 3 for 4 to raise his batting average to .338, and the Yankees hit multiple homers for the 20th time in 29 games.

Rookie Lewis Thorpe (1-1) got his first major league win by working 2 2/3 scoreless innings.

Taylor Rogers earned his 15th save.

The Twins had lost four of their first six games on this homestand.

Red Sox 9, Rays 4

In St. Petersburg, J.D. Martinez homered and drove in four runs, including an RBI double in the ninth inning following Tampa Bay's curious decision to put a position player on the mound, and Boston beat the Rays.

Eduardo Rodriguez (12-4) allowed two hits over seven scoreless innings to win his sixth straight decision. He limited the sputtering Rays to a pair of infield singles and four walks before being replaced by Nathan Eovaldi.

Eovaldi labored through two-thirds of an inning, yielding three run-scoring hits and allowing the Rays to cut the lead to five runs.

Tampa Bay manager Kevin Cash sent out rookie infielder Mike Brosseau to pitch the ninth. Brosseau, who started the game at second base, allowed doubles to Xander Bogaerts and Martinez. He was the fifth player to pitch for the Rays in the game.

Martinez, Andrew Benintendi and Sam Travis homered in the third inning, when the Red Sox scored seven runs against former Boston prospect Jalen Beeks (5-1).



St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Paul Goldschmidt catches a popup in foul territory by Pittsburgh Pirates' Jung Ho Kang during the second inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Monday, July 22, 2019.

Tampa Bay has dropped six of seven.

Indians 7, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Mike Clevinger pitched seven innings to win his third straight decision, Oscar Mercado homered and tripled, and Cleveland beat the Blue Jays to improve to 13-3 in July.

Francisco Lindor drove in a pair of runs and Jason Kipnis had two hits and scored twice for the Indians, who are a major league-best 29-11 since June 4.

Clevinger (4-2) allowed three runs and five hits. He walked two and struck out seven. The right-hander is 3-0 with a 1.88 ERA in four July starts.

Tyler Clippard finished with two perfect innings. Kipnis ended the game with a spectacular leaping catch at second

base on Cavan Biggio's liner into shallow right field.

Making his first start of the season after being sidelined with a sore elbow, Blue Jays left-hander Ryan Borucki (0-1) allowed four runs, two earned, and seven hits in 4 2/3 innings. He walked four and struck out three.

Astros 11, Athletics 1

In Houston, Gerrit Cole pitched seven strong innings and Aledmys Diaz, Yordan Alvarez and Yuli Gurriel homered as the Astros jumped on Homer Bailey for nine runs early and sailed to a win over Oakland.

Cole (11-5) yielded two hits and one run while striking out 11 to help Houston to its sixth straight win. Cole has won seven straight decisions, with

his last loss coming on May 22.

Bailey (8-7), who was acquired from Kansas City on July 14, allowed a season-high nine runs and tied a season high with eight hits in just two-plus innings. It was the first loss since June 1 for the veteran right-hander, who had won four straight decisions capped by Wednesday's win against Seattle in his debut for the Athletics.

Alvarez doubled in a run off Brian Schlitter with two outs in the inning to give him 35 RBIs, which is the most in major league history by a player in his first 30 games, surpassing the 34 Albert Pujols had in 2001.

Matt Chapman doubled for Oakland's first hit with one out in the fourth and the Athletics made it 11-1 when he scored on a two-out double by Mark Canha.

Those were the only two hits as the Athletics ended a streak of 21 straight games with a home run.

White Sox 9, Marlins 1

In Chicago, Ivan Nova pitched a four-hitter that led the White Sox over Miami.

Jose Abreu hit a two-run homer and Yoan Moncada added a three-run shot, and James McCann and Ryan Goins later connected for back-to-back drives.

Chicago opened a 10-game homestand by winning for the third time in 11 tries. The Marlins fell to 0-4 on their current six-game road trip.

The White Sox became the first team in the majors to have protective netting in place from foul pole to foul pole, extending the safety measure for their first game at Guaranteed Rate Field since the All-Star break.

Nova (5-9) improved to 5-0 lifetime against the Marlins, striking out five with no walks. This was his fourth career shutout—his previous one came with Pittsburgh on April 29, 2017, against the Marlins.

Jorge Alfaro homered in the second inning for the lone Miami run.

Trevor Richards (3-12) allowed seven runs over five innings in his seventh consecutive loss. He walked one and struck out seven.

Reds 6, Brewers 5

In Milwaukee, Eugenio Suarez hit a pair of home runs, including a two-run, go-ahead shot in the ninth inning off Jeremy Jeffress as the Reds rallied over the Brewers.

Suarez had given Cincinnati a 4-1 lead when he took Adrian Houser deep with two out in the seventh.

The Brewers took the lead right back an inning later when Tyler Saladino connected on a first-pitch fastball from Rasiel Iglesias for his second grand slam in as many days, snapping an 0-for-8 drought with runners in scoring position for Milwaukee.

With Josh Hader unavailable after working in each of Milwaukee's last two contests, Jeffress (3-3) got the call for the ninth. He struck out pinch-hitter Derek Dietrich to open the inning before giving up a single to Nick Senzel, putting the tying run aboard.

Senzel moved to second on Joey Votto's groundout to bring up Suarez, who sent Jeffress' second offering, a fastball right down the middle, to left for his ninth home run of the month and 27th of the season.

Wandy Peralta (1-1) pitched a perfect inning to get the victory while Jared Hughes got the final out to earn his first save.

Falcons open camp with questions on guest coach



FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga.

(AP)—Looking for a positive vibe after a disappointing season, the Atlanta Falcons instead faced scrutiny Monday over a coaching decision that would normally attract scant attention.

Shortly after taking the field for their first practice, the Falcons announced former Maryland coach DJ Durkin will serve as a guest coach during training camp.

This is first official coaching job for Durkin since he was fired by the Terrapins last season amid allegations that a toxic culture within his program led to the death of 19-year-old offensive lineman Jordan McNair.

Durkin will only be with the Falcons for about 10 days, but head coach Dan Quinn faced immediate questions about his decision. He defended the hiring and said he expects Durkin to provide valuable insight into a defense that endured a rash of injuries in 2018, contributing greatly to the first losing record (7-9) in Quinn's first four seasons in Atlanta.

"I would hope people would understand and know me well enough that nothing's more important than team," Quinn said. "The fact that I know this coach firsthand, and I know what his character is, and then the due diligence that goes with that, I would certainly hope that anybody covering the team or the fan base would know that I always have the team's best interests in mind and would never put anybody into a space that would be otherwise."

On a sweltering summer day, the Falcons began an



AP
Atlanta Falcons center Alex Mack (51), second from left, prepares to run a play during their NFL training camp football practice Monday, July 22, 2019, in Flowery Branch, Ga.

Quinn said. "I coached with him. I know what his character is. We did all of our due diligence of calling everybody at Maryland and had our own follow-up to there."

Hassan Murphy, an attorney representing McNair's parents, said the family had no comment on Durkin's assignment with the Falcons.

Durkin also spent some time with Nick Saban's Alabama coaching staff ahead of the College Football Playoff last season. But Saban called it a "professional development" assignment and stressed that Durkin was not been hired in any capacity by the Crimson Tide.

"He is simply observing our operation as many other coaches have done through the years," Saban said at the time.

Quinn, who is adding the role of defensive coordinator to his head coaching duties this season, said he believes Durkin can provide some helpful insight to a unit that is looking to bounce back from an injury-plagued year, which was especially disappointing for a team just two seasons removed from a Super Bowl appearance.

abbreviated training camp schedule ahead of their appearance in the Aug. 1 Hall of Fame game against the Denver Broncos. Durkin's stint will end when the team departs for Canton.

The hiring of Durkin was buried in an announcement that began with three other coaches who will join the team during training camp as part of the Bill Walsh fellowship program.

There was no mention of the tumultuous ending to Durkin's head coaching stint at Maryland, which began to unravel after McNair's heat-related

death during a team workout. After being placed on leave for the first eight games of the 2018 season, Durkin was reinstated by the Terrapins on Oct. 30—only to be fired the very next day when the school faced withering criticism.

A university investigation found that Durkin and his staff

created a culture in which players were afraid to speak out. McNair died two weeks after collapsing during a team conditioning drill, leading to revelations that trainers failed to recognize the signs of heat distress or take steps to cool the player.

Durkin's relationship with Atlanta's coach goes back to

their tenure at Florida. Quinn served as Gators defensive coordinator in 2011 and 2012, while Durkin worked with the linebackers and as special teams coordinator. When Quinn left for the Seattle Seahawks, Durkin took over as Florida's defensive coordinator.

"I know DJ firsthand,"

DERBY

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Flores wisely responded, "it's a top secret."

"It's our hunting place, others may check that next time if they found out," added Manibusan, who considered himself the lucky charm of the team.

It's Manibusan's third time to join the Aquaholics' crew, but he has been a long-time competitor in the derby. He was an angler for *Cabo Express* that won the grand prize back-to-back (2007 and 2008).

Aquaholics got the heaviest marlin a few hours before it rained and the water conditions became challenging, according to Castro.

"We went back to the water in the afternoon, but got nothing," Castro said.

Despite coming back to the dock empty handed, *Aquaholics'* 462-lb marlin was enough to ensure the boat the win—its first—as *Heller* fell short in its bid to unseat the former in first place after last Saturday's competition.

The Melvin Aldan-skipper *Heller* turned in a 438-lb catch to settle for first place in the marlin category. *Emmanuel* of captain Mike James from Guam caught a 238-lb marlin



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Anglers and supporters of *Bella* pose with their 24.8-lb mahi during the 35th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament last Sunday at Smiling Cove Marina.

last Sunday for second place, while captain Wayne Martin's *Nombei* finished third with its 204.6-lb catch. *Emmanuel* still holds the derby record of 942 lbs (2012).

Meanwhile, *CM 4735*, *St. Christopher*, *Bella*, *Ocean Masta*, and *Jernie II* were the top placers in other categories.

Jernie II won the total weight division after reeling

in 304 lbs, while *Ocean Masta* finished first in the skipjack category (14.9 lbs), beating *Bunita* (14.6 lbs) and *Olympic* (14 lbs). *Bella* was way ahead in the mahi competition with its 24.8-lb catch, while *Bottoms Up* (10.1 lbs) and *Lady in Red* (8.3) came in at second and third, respectively.

In the wahoo category, *St. Christopher* had a close

win with its 30.7-lb catch. *Chada Gu'eru* and *Santa Soledad* turned in their catch that weighed similarly (29.8 lbs), but the former won, as it brought its wahoo earlier than the latter.

There was also a close battle in the yellow fin category with *CM 4735's* 47.8-lb catch edging the 46.2 lbs of *Victoria Lei* and 46 lbs of *Magnificat*.

CAROL

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on," Lee added.

In the final day of the competition (last Friday), Lee and Sinclair played in the semi-finals in the morning versus the Cook Islands' Brett Baudinet and Tamara Anderson and was forced to an extended first set before escaping with a 7-5 victory. In the second set, the CNMI pair won anew, 6-3, to advance to the finals against PNG and No. 1 seed Abigail Tere-Apisah and Matthew Stubbings. Earlier in the singles quarterfinals, Lee lost to Tere-Apisah, while Stubbings gave Sinclair some anxious moments in their first singles duel in the team event.

The PNG duo went on to win the first set, pushing the CNMI bets to the brink with a 7-6 victory, but Lee and Sinclair persevered and took the second set, 6-3, to keep their gold medal hopes alive.

Then in the deciding third set, the No. 1 seed team seemed poised for the win, as it led in the majority of the game and even posted a 3-0 advantage early on. However, Lee and Sinclair made one of the biggest comebacks in the tournament to upset the PNG players, 10-8, and hand the CNMI its third gold medal.

"Win or lose, it was one of the best matches I ever played," Lee said, adding that she is thankful for the opportunity to play with Sinclair.

"It was such an honor to play with Colin Sinclair. He was the top ATP player I ever played with in mixed doubles. I didn't even imagine it! I am thankful I played with him. Hopefully, we can play together again in the future," said Lee, who is back in Fiji to train for a few more world-ranking tournaments. "It's a great honor to play for the CNMI and I am proud that I was able to win a gold medal for our team."

St. Jude, San Jose Tinian triumph

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

St. Jude Parish and San Jose Tinian led the winners list in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa Sportsfest and Health Fair 2019 held over the weekend at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

St. Jude ruled the basketball competition after beating Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in the finals, 64-54. In the volleyball title match, San Jose Tinian edged San Jose Saipan, 18-16.

San Vicente, Kristo Rai, San Antonio, Santa Remedios, and San Roque also joined the volleyball and basketball tournaments and the four other events held in the third edition of the annual sportsfest.

In the frisbee, San Jose Tinian was victorious, too after defeating Santa Remedios in the finals, 9-7. The visiting team also ruled the obstacle course event held at the MHS grounds after clocking in at 7:23.00. Santa Remedios was the runner-up after posting 9:30.05, while St. Jude completed the Top 3 with its 10:50.03.

St. Jude earned another first place honors when they won the tug-of-

war competition, while San Jose Tinian and Santa Remedios came in at second and third place, respectively.

In the food eating contest, San Vicente's Joshua Chavez was the winner, while Kristorai's Anthony Lajara was the runner-up, and San Jose Tinian's Leo Epity finished third.

"This event has been held in the last three years as a collaboration between the Diocese Youth Ministry and The Diocese Health Ministry. Our goal is provide the youth in our diocese a time to gather and play for their respective churches and just have fun in the form of a sports competition. The event also promotes health and wellness," Diocese Youth Ministry director Edward Dela Cruz Jr.

Winners received trophies during the awards ceremony at the Joeten Daidai Social Hall with Bishop Ryan Jimenez handing the prizes to the teams and their members.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Jose Saipan players, left, block a spike from their opponent during a volleyball game in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa Sportsfest and Health Fair 2019 held over the weekend at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

San Jose Tinian players and coaches pose for a photo after beating San Jose Saipan in the volleyball finals.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

St. Jude and Kristo Rai players shake hands after their game.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A player from Kristo Rai goes for an underhand serve.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

St. Jude's Father James Balajadia, left, drives against Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's Jude Tengco during their title match.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the obstacle course head to the next hurdle.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A San Jose Saipan player, right, faces two San Jose Tinian defenders.

Duncan returning
to Spurs as
assistant coach

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Goldschmidt's
grand slam lifts
Cards past Pirates

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mission accomplished for Carol



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Carol Lee returns to Vanuatu's Ela Puleni Vakaukamea during their women's singles game in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa last week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Things did not work Carol Lee's way after the first week of competition in the XVI Pacific Games, but she remained focus and motivated en route to making it to the top of the podium in Samoa.

"My goal in the Pacific Games was to win at least one medal and I did achieve that after getting the mixed doubles gold with Colin Sinclair," said Lee, who also played in the team event in Week 1 and had a tough assignment in the pool play, as they were pitted against tournament favorites Papua New Guinea and Samoa.

Lee, Malika Miyawaki, Isabel Heras, and Tania Tan ended up in fifth place in the team event and had only a few days of rest before returning to the court to play in the singles, doubles, and mixed doubles.

"It was raining a lot, on and off, and the weather made everyone slow down, mentally. I just knew there were going to



be more rain coming, and it would be like that for two whole weeks, so I mentally prepared myself," said Lee.

Fatigue took its toll on some players, as they withdrew from their matches, while Lee and the rest of the CNMI bets soldiered on, seeing action in multiple games in one day with just a few hours or even less than an hour of rest in between.

"I played four matches in one day, and then two, the next day, which was the semifinals mixed doubles, and the finals. It was very tiring, I will be honest," the 17-year-old said.

"But winning the medal motivated me to keep moving

See CAROL on Page 26



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Colin Sinclair, left, and Carol Lee, second left, pose with the umpire and Papua New Guinea's Abigail Tere-Apisah and Matthew Stubbings before their mixed doubles title game in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa last week.

Aquaholics rules fishing derby

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



An early catch turned out to be the winning one for *Aquaholics*, as it topped the 35th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament held over the weekend.

Captain Tony Flores and his anglers Luis Manibusan and Juan Castro reeled in a 462-lb marlin around 7am way off the Saipan lagoon to take the grand prize in this year's competition that featured 76 boats.

"It took as about an hour to bring it into our boat and then we headed back to the dock to turn our catch in," said Flores, whose group was the first to hit the scale at the Smiling Cove Marina after checking in at a little over 10am last Saturday.

When asked where they found the prized catch, See DERBY on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Aquaholics captain Tony Flores, fourth left, and anglers Juan Castro, second left, and Luis Manibusan, third left, pose with their 462-lb marlin at the Smiling Cove Marina during Day 1 of the 35th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament last Saturday.